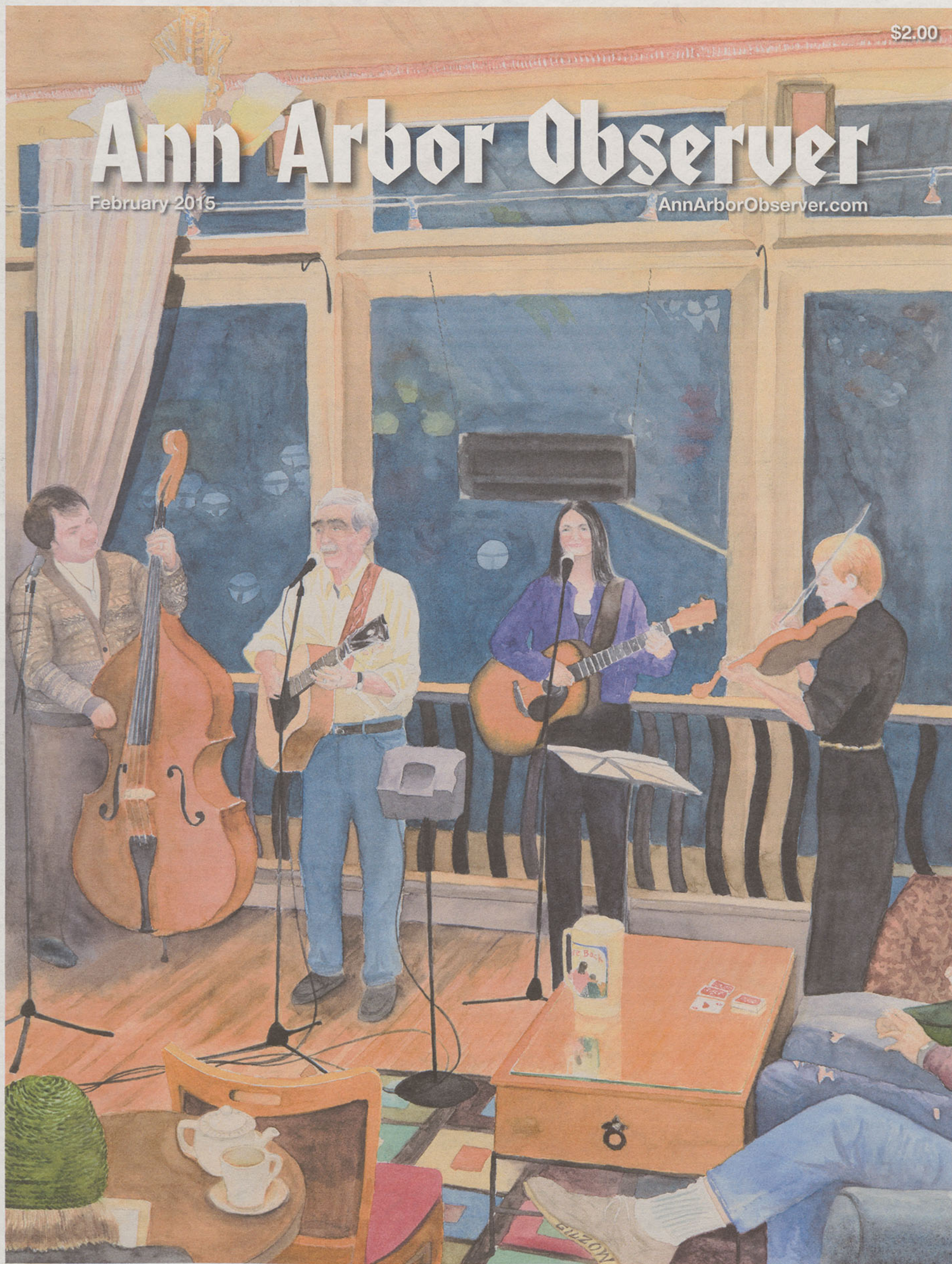


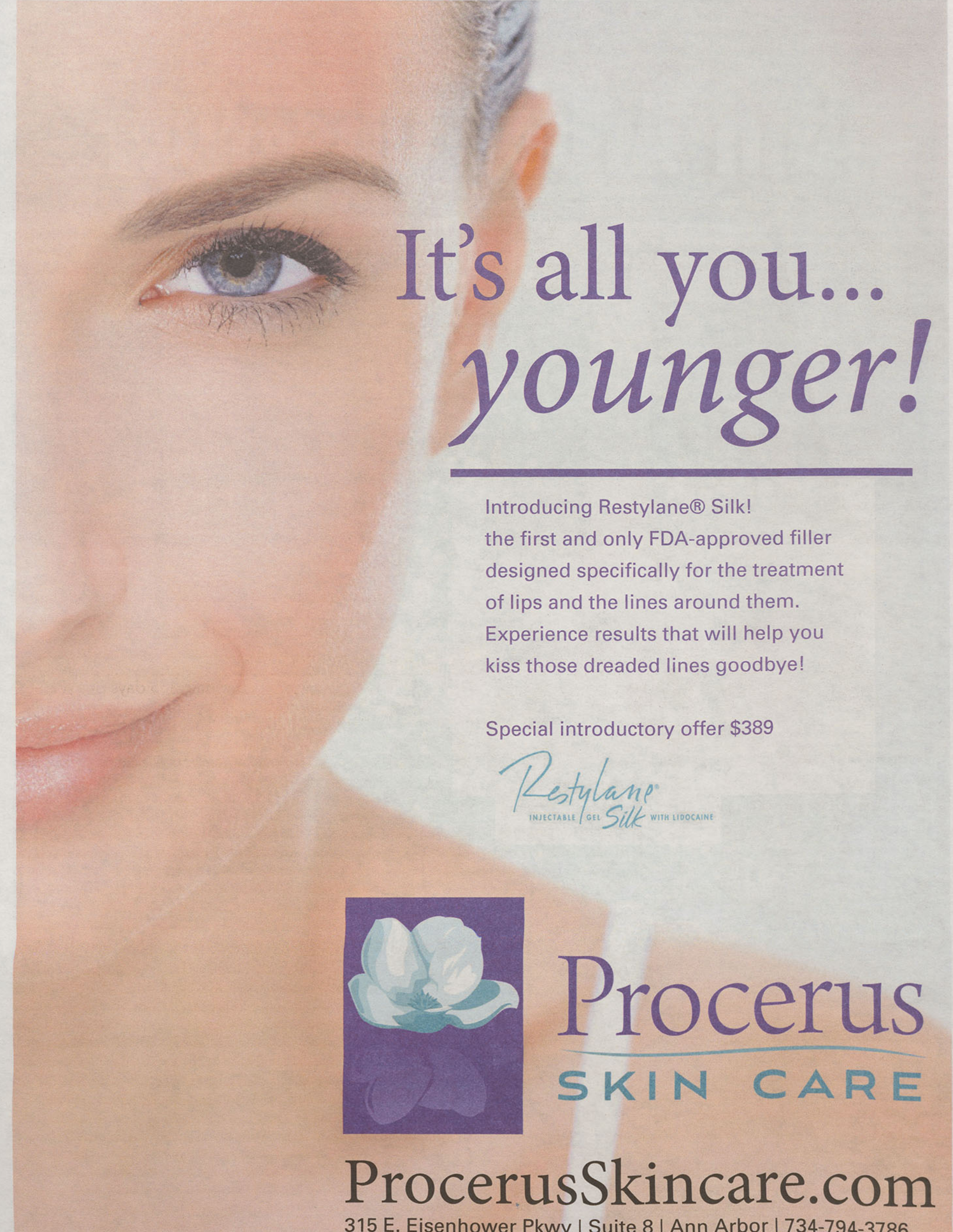
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Register: a2gov.org/camps

REGISTER TODAY: Day camps and spring/summer activities!

Summer day camp registration is underway. Registration for summer day camps in the Ann Arbor Parks begins Sunday, Feb. 1. Fun-filled, character building and educational experiences include swimming, kayaking, golf, science, crafts and more! Register by April 30 at Buhr or Fuller Park Pool Day Camps and enjoy a \$20 discount per week. Register at www.a2gov.org/camps.

Spring/Summer 2015 registration is open. Beginning Sunday, Feb. 1 you can also register for Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation's lessons, programs and activities. Learn to golf, take a kayaking class, sign-up for swim lessons or volunteer with our Give 365 program. The 80-page parks guide can be found throughout the city and at all parks facilities. You can view the guide at www.a2gov.org/parks or go directly to our online registration system at <https://online.activecommunities.com/annarbor>.

American Red Cross Swim Lessons. Group swim lessons are offered for children ages 6 months through adult beginners at Mack Indoor Pool. Class size is limited. Ability requirements must be honored unless prior instructor approval is granted. Registration will be accepted during any public swim time, by phone or online. Cancelled lessons will be made up on the Friday of the cancelled class. 715 Brooks St., inside Ann Arbor Open School, 734.794.6237. Visit <https://online.activecommunities.com/annarbor> to register.

Monday/Wednesday (sessions I/K) or Tuesday/Thursday evening sessions (sessions J/L): Session I or J – Feb. 2-27 | Session K or L – March 2-26

Saturday Sessions: Session 4 – Feb. 28-April 25 (no class 4/4)

Buhr Park Funky Frosty Friday. Join us Friday, Feb. 6 from 7:15-8:45 p.m. for Rock the 80's Skate. Rock the 80's and skate to big hair bands and monster ballads. Dress up to win prizes for best costume! 2751 Packard Rd., 734.794.6234. General admission rates apply, adult resident, \$5; nonresident, \$6; youth

resident (17 & under) \$4; youth nonresident, \$5; senior resident, \$4; senior nonresident, \$5.

Buhr Blitz Day. Come out during mid-winter break on Monday, Feb. 16, from 12-2 p.m. Join us for an afternoon of special games, contests, and prizes. General admission rates apply. Volunteers needed at Buhr Blitz Day from 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Lead games and activities for kids both on and off the ice at Buhr Park Outdoor Ice Arena. Set-up and take-down times are included, and not all volunteers will need to know how to skate. We are looking for people who are comfortable interacting with children and the public. Please call GIVE365 to sign up to volunteer at 734.794.6445. Bring warm clothes for outdoor activities. 2751 Packard Rd., 734.794.6234.

Natural Area Preservation Stewardship Workday. Join us Monday, Feb. 16 at Gallup Park from 1-3 p.m. Gallup is one of Ann Arbor's most popular recreation areas, and the wet meadow deserves volunteer attention during the winter season. This high quality sedge meadow is composed of perennial forbs, grass, and sedge mixtures that grow in saturated soils. Accessible when the ground is frozen, volunteers will cut invasive woody shrubs that compete with native species for water, nutrients, and sun. Enter Gallup from Fuller Rd. and drive over the bridge and park in the first parking lot to meet NAP staff. Please wear long pants and closed-toe shoes. All minors must present a completed release form, and should be accompanied by a guardian. Tools, snacks, and know-how provided. www.a2gov.org/NAP.

Learn to skate lessons. Register to for learn to skate and hockey skills session #3 at Veterans Memorial Indoor Ice Arena (2150 Jackson Rd.) Jan. 26-March 21 (8 classes). \$72 resident/\$90 nonresident. 2150 Jackson Rd., 734.794.6235. Visit <https://online.activecommunities.com/annarbor> to register.

No School Days/Vacation Skating. Extra public skating sessions are offered during the Ann Arbor Public School holidays at Veterans Memorial Indoor Ice Arena (2150 Jackson Rd.) Feb. 16, 11:10 a.m.-1 p.m.; Feb. 17, 11 a.m.-2:45 p.m.; Feb. 18, 11:10 a.m.-2:45 p.m. 2150 Jackson Rd., 734.794.6235.



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NEW MODEL HOMES NOW OPEN TO TOUR AT TOLL BROTHERS' ANN ARBOR COMMUNITIES

Toll Brothers, the nation's leading builder of luxury homes, is proud to offer two exceptional new home communities in Ann Arbor, Riding Oaks Estates and Woodlands of Geddes Glen. Both communities offer low township taxes, acclaimed Ann Arbor schools, and an Ann Arbor mailing address.

Riding Oaks Estates is located in the picturesque west side of Ann Arbor, on the south side of Scio Church Road just west of Zeeb Road, offering a quiet country setting with easy access to many conveniences. This new community offers home buyers a truly intimate setting with only 29 expansive home sites at an average size of 3/4 acre with breathtaking views and most feature no rear neighbors. The homes range from 3,100 to 4,200+ square feet with four bedrooms and three and a half baths and feature an impressive palette of appointments. Home prices start in the upper \$500,000s. For those looking to move soon, a 4,400 sq. ft. five bedroom, four and a half bath home priced in the mid-\$700,000s is available with immediate occupancy.

For detailed directions to our Sales Center and model home, visit

www.RidingOaksEstates.com or call (734) 997-3800.

A stunning 6,800 sq. ft. model home is now open at Woodlands of Geddes Glen, located on the north side of Geddes Road, just east of Dixboro Road adjacent to the private, University of Michigan-owned Radrick Farms golf course. This luxury gated community offers Toll Brothers' largest and most elaborate homes on 32 stunning home sites, many featuring walkout or lookout basements and breathtaking golf course or wooded nature views. The homes range from 4,000 to 5,000+ square feet with first- or second-floor master suites and an impressive list of features. Prices start in the low \$800,000s. For a map and directions, visit www.WoodlandsOfGeddesGlen.com or call (734) 487-6700.

All Toll Brothers homes are highly customizable with a vast selection of both decorative and structural options, such as gourmet island kitchens, expansive master suites, dual staircases, two-story family rooms and foyers, oversize molding and signature interior trim details, and a minimum of nine-foot ceilings throughout the first and second floors.



For more information on both communities as well as a map and directions to the Ann Arbor sales center, visit www.TollBrothers.com/AAO.

Toll Brothers, Inc., a Fortune 1000 company, is the nation's leading builder of luxury homes. The company began business in 1967 and became a public company in 1986. Its common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "TOL."

Toll Brothers has built hundreds of homes in Ann Arbor since the company's initial entry into the market in 1999. To date, the company has developed and built homes in the communities of The Pines at Lake Forest, Glenborough, Arbor

Hills, Walnut Ridge, and Riverwood, as well as several semi-custom homes on privately owned property.

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Riding Oaks Estates Sales Center & Model Home located on south side of Scio Church Rd., 3/4 mile west of Zeeb Rd.
The Woodlands of Geddes Glen Sales Center & Model Home located on north side of Geddes Rd., 1/2 mile east of Dixboro Rd.
Open Daily 11-6. Brokers welcome. Homes available nationwide. Prices subject to change without notice. Photos are images only and should not be relied upon to confirm applicable features. This is not an offering where prohibited by law.



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(Only for families of students admitted through the random selection. Tours available now through early February for prospective families.)		
A2 STEAM	Tues. 2/24	6:30-7:30 pm
Bach	Tues. 2/24	6-7:30 pm
Bryant/Pattengill*	Thurs. 2/12	6-7:30 pm
Burns Park	Tues. 2/24	6-7:30 pm
Carpenter	Thurs. 2/26	6-7:30 pm
Dicken*	Tues. 2/24	6:30-7:30 pm
Eberwhite	Thurs. 2/26	6:30 pm
Haisley*	Thurs. 2/26	6-7:30 pm
King	Thurs. 2/26	6:00 pm
Lakewood	Tues. 2/24	6-7:30 pm
Lawton*	Tues. 2/3	6:30-8:00 pm
Logan*	Thurs. 2/12	6-7:30 pm
Mitchell	Tues. 2/24	6:30 pm
Pittsfield	Thurs. 2/12	6:30 pm
Thurston	Thurs. 2/26	6:00 pm
Wines	Wed. 2/25	6:30 pm

*Young Fives Programs offered only at these schools. Children must be five years old between May 1 and September 1, 2015 or by December 1, 2015 with a waiver.

Ann Arbor Observer

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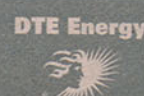
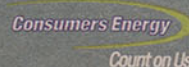
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UpFront

Hands off my email: Google's decision last year to quickly resolve concerns about its Apps for Education (AFE) is looking smarter all the time. As wariness grows about the trove of data collected by the search engine giant, half a dozen European companies are investigating possible violations of their privacy laws.

Google faces a deadline this month in the Netherlands to stop targeting ads based on users' searches without their consent.

Similar issues surfaced at the U-M after it moved its student and staff email accounts from an in-house system to AFE, which includes a U-M-branded version of Google's Gmail service. The public version of Gmail is free, but users see ads targeted to their interests—which Google learns by scanning their emails for keywords.

The AFE version, which is used by more than 25 million students at schools worldwide, has ads turned off by default. But U-M interim chief information security officer Sol Bermann says concerns arose last March when a lawsuit filed in California alleged that Google could use data gleaned by scanning student accounts to deliver ads in other Google products, such as YouTube or Blogger. "There were concerns about if you're in a history class, maybe you're studying Nazi Germany, and a faculty member or a student has a blog," Bermann says. "Would they potentially start getting sort of right-wing, odd-ball ads served up for hate literature?"

Google responded that the scanning was never used to generate ads anywhere, and U-M students interviewed by the Observer say they saw no correlation between the content of their AFE emails and ads elsewhere on the web. But within a month, Google announced that it would stop scanning student emails—"not without some pressure from higher education institutions, including U-M," says Bermann.

Own winter! AAATA promotes non-automotive commutes year round, but it's a harder sell this time of year. So in January, its getDowntown program was running its third annual "Conquer the Cold" contest. Director Nancy Shore says that as of mid-January, about 500 people had pledged to bike, walk, or bus to work during the month—a jump from the 350 who signed up last year. They're encouraged by prizes ranging from a free drink coupon (for just one non-car commute) to a \$500 gift certificate to Bivouac (to

be chosen by a drawing among those who report ten or more commutes.)

Participants include Ann Arbor newcomer Roger Young, a DC transplant who "has yet to commute to work in my car." Emails Young, "Once I found out I can

be rewarded for doing something I do everyday, I figured 'Why not?' " At mid-month, Young

had walked from Woodbury Gardens apartments to his job downtown every day in January. Lissa Spitz was also on track to log a car-free month. She moved closer to her downtown job six months ago and commutes by bike when the pavement is dry, by bus when it's not. "I'm not one of those hard-core snow bike riders," she says—but adds, "I hope to never go back to having to car commute."

Participants also earn virtual badges ("Abominable Snowman," "Cold Scout"), discounts from bike and other stores, and receive winter (non-car) commuting tips from the getDowntown website. Although the contest only runs through January, Shore and staff continue to offer other winter commuting events, like a bike-care workshop at the U-M's Elbel Building on February 5. "We do live in Michigan," Shore says. "We might as well make the best of it."

The Ann Arbor Daily: "I like to read it for the city council coverage," says Washtenaw Dairy co-owner Doug Raab. He's talking about the *Michigan Daily*, which since September has been available free at the Dairy. It's one of more than 150 off-campus sites now handing out copies of the student-run paper.

Business manager Doug Solomon, a senior in the Ross School of Business, says that while the *Daily* is seeing rapid growth in social media, "print is still our bread and butter." The outreach reflects "a concerted effort on our part not only to increase our circulation around Ann Arbor but also to increase our [news] coverage of the area." A quick scan of recent issues reveals timely, capable coverage of city council meetings mixed in with news of campus issues, sports, and arts reviews. *Daily* sales and marketing advisor Kathy

Ciesinski emails that the decision to expand off-campus readership grew out of a student review in 2013. It kicked off last January with drops at apartment complexes and more outdoor news boxes. About 1,000 of the 18,000 copies printed now go to apartments (such as Huron Towers), restaurants (the Broken Egg, Denny's), and hotels (Hampton Inn, Holiday Inn).

"Not everyone spends time with their laptop, or smartphone," Ciesinski notes. "So, the individual who goes into a place like The Northside Grill for a cup of coffee, breakfast, or lunch, can sit down with an actual newspaper."

Miss Dean's new trees: When

Elizabeth Dean, the only heir of a prosperous Main St. merchant, died in 1964, the city

was stunned to find that she had left all her money—\$1.7 million—to create a fund "to be used to repair, maintain

and replace trees on city property in the City of Ann Arbor perpetually." The first thing the city did, in 1965, was to build

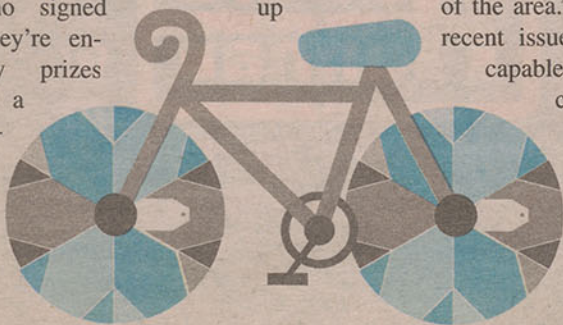
forty-six raised planters on three then-treeless blocks of Main St. It planted lindens in the middle of each block and honey locusts in the larger "bump-outs" at the corners.

Life is hard for street trees, and over the past fifty years a number of the original trees in what's now called the Elizabeth Dean Promenade have died, with the Dean Fund paying for replacements. Four new trees went in this past fall. "A

couple trees had died, and a couple were dying," explains Kerry Gray, the city's urban forestry planning and natural resource coordinator, "and we thought it would be a good time to replace all four." A honey locust was replaced between Liberty and Washington, and three lindens between Liberty and William were replaced by ginkgoes.

Gray says that though lindens have glorious fall colors, they couldn't take "the stresses of the downtown area, including the warmer temperatures, air pollution, and salt." They started dying about ten years ago, and the city picked the ginkgoes—a 270-million-year-old variety that no longer exists in the wild but survived in cultivation in China—to replace them.

"We were looking for something that could do well in the restricted space of the planting pit, could tolerate air pollution, and had similar fall colors," Gray explains. "As the lindens die, we'll put in ginkgoes to maintain symmetry." ■



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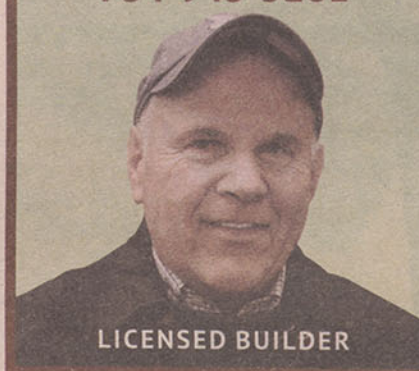
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Inside Ann Arbor

The Family Glitch

Why do 1,300 people still depend on the Washtenaw Health Plan?

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act—aka Obamacare—should have made the county's health insurance plan obsolete. Created in 2002 to insure residents who couldn't afford coverage but weren't poor enough to qualify for Medicaid, it enrolled more than 8,000 people in October 2013.

Though Obamacare moved most people out of those traps, it isn't working for everyone. Krista Nordberg, WHP's director of enrollment and advocacy, says one reason so many people remain on the county plan is something called the "family glitch."

The glitch hits working families—families where one member qualifies for coverage from an employer but earns only enough to make an "employee contribution" for their own insurance—not the much larger premium that would cover the entire family. Unless they're poor enough to qualify for Michigan's expanded Medicaid program, they're out of luck: because one member has employer-provided insurance, the family is ineligible for an ACA subsidy. Faced with a "ginormous increase" in premiums if they leave WHP, says Nordberg, these families are staying put.

Happily, they're the exceptions: since October 2013, approximately 6,700 county residents have left WHP. About 1,100 became eligible for subsidies to buy private insurance via HealthCare.gov. About 1,600 didn't respond to invitations



MARK BIALEK

WHP's Krista Nordberg says the county health plan has shed 6,700 members since the rollout of Obamacare—but bureaucratic tangles still ensnare some low-income working families.

to come in to discuss coverage options and were dropped from the rolls. And almost 4,000 are now covered by the state's expanded Medicaid program.

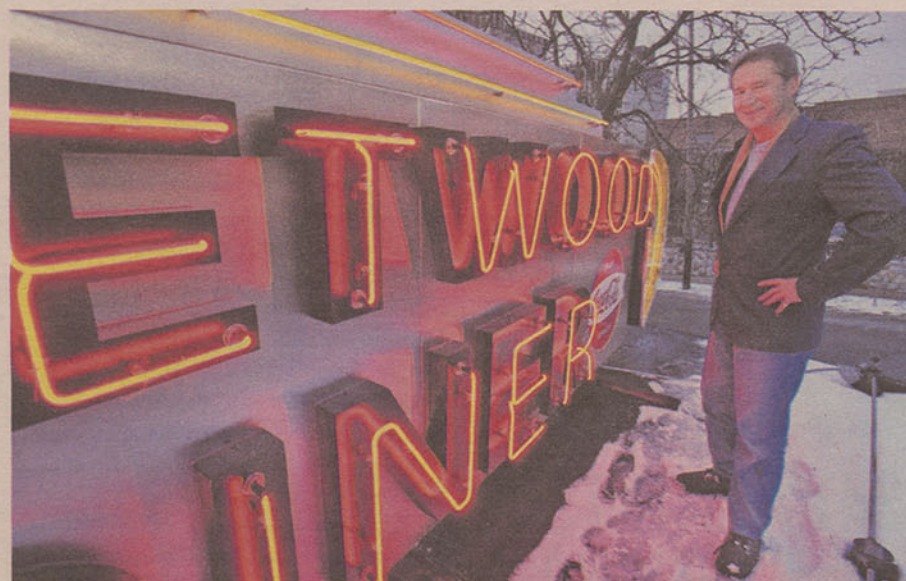
"For lots of people, it went surprisingly easy" to enroll in Medicaid, says Nordberg. "We did the applications, they were approved right away, and that's it."

Candice Starks is one former WHP enrollee who made the switch to Medicaid.

Starks, of Ypsilanti, is thankful for health coverage in part because she has type 2 diabetes, which she's been trying to control through healthy eating.

"I have to count my blessings," says Starks. "I have pretty good health for being sixty-four years old."

Ineligible for ACA subsidies, families caught in the glitch face a "ginormous" increase in premiums if they leave the county health plan.



MARK BIALEK

Chalou with his latest Ann Arbor sign, at the Fleetwood Diner. He tapped his collection of vintage neon for the rare canary-yellow color in the accent and arrow—"No one else has [it], to my knowledge, in the Midwest."

One of Starks' blessings is that she's had no problem keeping Medicaid coverage.

Others are not so blessed: some people newly covered by Medicaid have had their insurance terminated for no apparent reason. The lapse usually coincides with a change or update in coverage for other safety net programs, such as recertifying for food assistance.

"We see a lot of problems with people getting coverage for a few months, and then they lose it," says Nordberg. "So we do a whole lot of advocacy with the Department of Community Health."

Nordberg pins blame for the recurring problem on the state's computer system. The Michigan Department of Community Health did not give an explanation.

Beyond the seemingly endless bureaucracy, however, there is some good news: though doctors often criticize Medicaid's low payments, patients like Starks who are newly covered by the state program are finding, or keeping, caregivers.

"Anybody that was on the Washtenaw Health Plan was already with a doctor's office that accepted Medicaid," Nordberg explains. "So access seems to be going fine."

A December study by the U-M Center for Healthcare Research & Transformation supports Nordberg's observation. Of about 300 primary care doctors responding to a survey, 64 percent said they're taking new Medicaid patients.

Though Obamacare has yet to render WHP obsolete, Nordberg focuses on the positive. "At least we're left feeling pretty good because we got our people where they needed to go," she says.

Sign Wizard

Name a neon sign in Ann Arbor, and chances are that Mark Chalou's fingerprints are on it.

The Detroit-raised artist has spent more than thirty years living and making signs in the Ann Arbor area. His handiwork includes the red Zingerman's logo on the roof of the Roadhouse, Aventura's blocky TAPAS sign, and the brand-new yet vintage-looking sign at Fleetwood Diner.

Although signs have fascinated him from childhood, Chalou first became involved in the business when he met Detroit neon artist Charlie Campanelli in the early 1970s. The two bonded over a shared fascination with the gas-filled glass tubes, and Chalou went to work as a salesman for Campanelli—whom he recalls as "quite the artistic kind of character"—while learning some of the tricks of his trade.

In the mid-1970s, Chalou pitched an idea for a new "Open" sign to Domino's Pizza, incorporating the company's

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Inside Ann Arbor

branding by placing a domino logo inside the letter "O." Chalou was elated when Domino's ordered 100 signs, but his excitement was dampened slightly when a major tweak to the design came down from the top of the company. "Evidently Tom Monaghan didn't like the domino inside the 'O,'" he says. "But I ended up selling them about 1,500 signs over a five-year period."

Chalou's business took off from there, and his signs have since proliferated around southeast Michigan—and, thanks to franchise clients like Domino's, around the globe. He and his graphic designer, Frederick Culpepper, produce thirty to fifty sign designs per year, in addition to window graphics, light boxes, posters, and other decor elements. The signs are fabricated at a workshop in Wixom.

Chalou speaks highly of the handful of "iconic" old signs left in Ann Arbor, including Colonial Lanes, Ann Arbor Muffler, and the Ann Arbor Bus Depot.

Around Ann Arbor you'll see his work at Mani, Fraser's Pub, Sparrow Market, and the new Sweetwaters on Liberty St.; he's also restored older eye-catchers at the Blue Nile and Colonial Lanes.

As LEDs replaced gas-filled tubes in illuminated signs, he changed the original name of his business—"Mr. Neon"—to Chalou Design. While he embraces the new LED-focused world and the possibilities it presents, the signs of decades past remain a major influence on his work. He pores through books of old signage for inspiration, and he drew elements of Aventura's sign from a '40s-era hotel sign—though what look like old-fashioned incandescent marquee bulbs are actually low-energy LEDs.

He also maintains a collection of over 100 different colors of neon tubes, some of them rare. The Fleetwood sign includes a canary yellow that, he says, "no one else has, to my knowledge, in the Midwest." Depending on the size and material, a new sign typically costs \$7,500 to \$15,000.

He speaks highly of the handful of "iconic" old signs left in Ann Arbor, including Colonial Lanes, Ann Arbor Muffler, and the Ann Arbor Bus Depot, and the "creative, artistic guys" who made them. "It seems like they were competing to come up with something very, very unique, something different," he says. "It just fascinates me."

Chalou ranks Zingerman's Roadhouse, Aventura, and the Fleetwood Diner signs as his favorites. "They all have this arrow concept in them," he says. "I didn't realize it until I was three-quarters of the way through the Fleetwood sign."

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Cupka's show, which airs Saturday mornings on WAAM, promises listeners a chance "to exercise [their] First and Second Amendment rights."

Trigger Talk

Dick Cupka says Ann Arbor isn't as anti-gun as you might think.

Some Ann Arborites might be surprised to learn that their famously liberal town is home to a weekly radio talk show devoted to firearms. But Cupka, who hosts "Trigger Talk Radio" on WAAM Talk 1600, says guns aren't as politicized as they're often made out to be.

"From a politician's standpoint, they tend to be divided more," Cupka says. "But from the actual gun owner's side, I don't see it ... You should not make the mistake that when it's firearms related, that it is necessarily Republican versus Democrat, or liberal versus conservative. We'll be out here shooting at the Tri-County Sportsmen's League near Saline, and we'll have people out here who are social workers and Democrat politicians and things like that."

Cupka's hour-long show, which airs Saturday mornings at 11 a.m., promises listeners a chance "to exercise [their] First

and Second Amendment rights" in discussions ranging "from handguns to rifles and hunting to self-defense, even a bit of politics." Call-ins come from across the country (the show is online at waamradio.com), with most questions focusing on the finer points of firearm ownership, from selecting the right gun to finding the right ammo.

Cupka has been friends with WAAM husband-and-wife owners Terry "Thayrone X" Hughes and Linda Hughes, since the mid-2000s. He made his WAAM debut with a monthly segment on Matt Clark's show, "The Clarkcast," in 2011. The segment proved popular enough that two years ago Cupka got his own program. "I just have a blast doing it because this is something I like to do as a hobby, and it's something I think is important from an educational standpoint," he says.

Cupka describes himself as politically conservative, but, while both Clark and Terry Hughes are notably outspoken in their political views, he tries to downplay policy discussion on his show. "I don't enjoy the politics as much," he says. "I mention it because I want to make sure that the gun owners know if there's something going on with legislation."

While he supports the current National Instant Criminal Background Check System for gun buyers, he's a vocal opponent of more restrictive gun control measures—such as Washington's recently approved Initiative 594, which requires

"We'll be out here shooting [at the Tri-County Sportsmen's League] and we'll have people out here who are social workers and Democrat politicians and things like that."

Life in Ann Arbor

Tim Athan

This year, we plan a trip out of Ann Arbor, to show the kids things they've never encountered...

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6:30-8:00 pm

Thursday, January 29 at Forsythe Middle School

Tuesday, February 10 at Scarlett Middle School

Thursday, February 12 at Slauson Middle School

Monday, February 23, Downtown Public Library

4th Floor, 12 noon-1:30 pm

Tuesday, March 3 at Tappan Middle School

Monday, March 9 at Peace Neighborhood Center

Thursday, March 26 at Pathways to Success Campus

Monday, March 30 at Community High School

Tuesday, March 31 at AA Open

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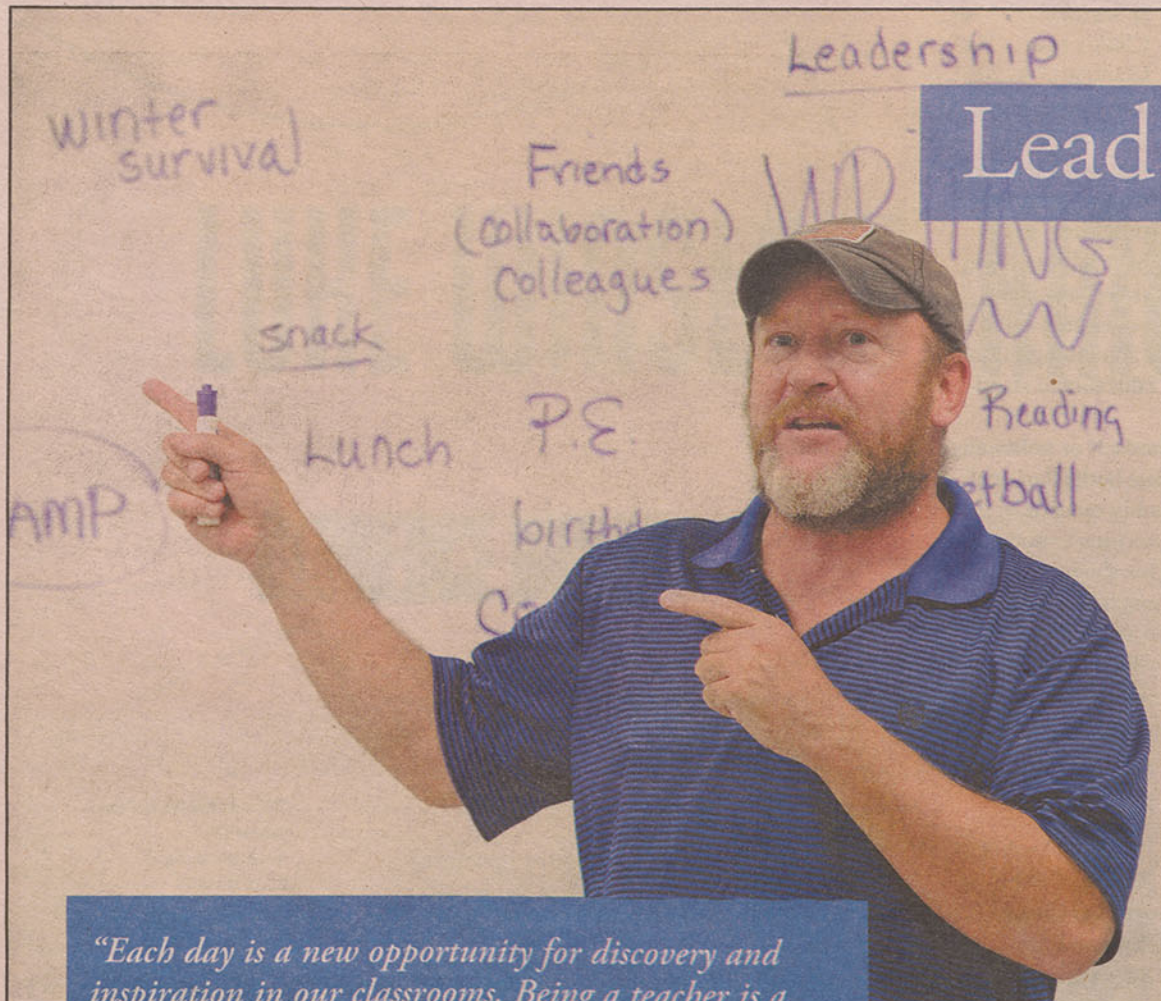


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Inside Ann Arbor

background checks for all gun sales including private transfers. Cupka says he was taught a responsible, respectful attitude toward firearms while growing up on a farm in Illinois. He began shooting with BB guns at age five and was given his first gun, which he still has, at age fourteen. "There's some basic things that kids learned, and nowadays I don't think they do," he says. "So I think the educational aspect helps everybody."

He promotes that educational aspect as an instructor at the Tri-County Sportsmen's League, where he teaches

a concealed pistol license class. A dedicated proponent of personal defense by concealed carry, he says he carries a pistol "virtually all the time." But he says safety always comes first.

"You need to follow what the rules are," he says. "If they're wrong, they can be changed someday if the world wants to do that. But follow the rules. That's what I always advocate on the show."

question corner

Q. One year after spending \$6.5 million to reconstruct Miller Ave., traffic buildups at the intersection of Miller and Maple are atrocious, especially on outbound Miller. It's maddening, causing cars to detour through the adjacent neighborhood south of Miller. Why didn't "they" put in a roundabout? Same for the intersection at Jackson and Maple, just finished and arguably worse. Is it too late to get rid of the stoplights in favor of roundabouts?

A. The Miller Ave. reconstruction stopped just east of the Maple intersection. The next time Maple is reconstructed, the city will definitely consider a roundabout, weighing costs and benefits. On such a busy road it would need to be multi-lane, which is not as safe as a single-lane roundabout.

Got a question? Email question@aaobserver.com

As part of the I-94 business loop, the Jackson-Maple intersection is under the jurisdiction of the Michigan Department of Transportation. Instead of a roundabout, MDOT decided to add more turn lanes. Roundabouts in general don't work well at intersections like Jackson-Maple with heavy left-turning movements, because left turns require traveling three-quarters of the roundabout, impeding two other entrances in the process.

The city takes every opportunity to install roundabouts; one was considered at Miller and Newport as part of the reconstruction, but the right-of-way wasn't big enough. It's a common problem: narrow streets often make it impossible to build a roundabout without acquiring additional right-of-way.

calls & letters

Identifying Officer Adkins

To the Observer:

I just wanted to point out an error in your January 2015 issue. The article titled "Heavy Traffic" quotes Officer Jamie Adkins. Then it says "he says." Officer Adkins is a woman!

Sincerely,
Judi Taylor

Taylor is correct—and we should have known better, since we published a photo of Officer Adkins back in 2011.

Crediting Thomas Ulch

We omitted a photo credit in January's Nightspots review. Our apologies to Thomas Ulch.

Inspiring Milt Kemnitz

To the Observer:

Greg Dobrin's resurrection of the image of Milt Kemnitz was a welcome surprise. I wish I'd known all of that background when I first met Milt in 1957. He was painting on vehicles

at Ashley Auto Service and learned that George, one of the owners, and I were getting married and we'd rented an apartment in Judge Breakey's stately mansion on Packard. Milt kindly went to Ypsilanti, sketched the property, made two India-ink-on-rice paper drawings for us for a wedding picture.

I was so impressed, I said to Milt, "they're threatening to tear down those interesting old buildings on Ann Street. I wish you'd capture them before they do." Milt went on to capture countless [examples of] old architecture on campus and off—buildings that would be forgotten without his talent. He was a terrific guy.

Years later, he did me another kindness. My son was selling fish worms at our farm on North Territorial. I tried to commission Milt to paint a winning sign for him. He did, but wouldn't accept payment. It sold my 10-year-old a lot of worms ...

Sincerely,
Alice Bingner

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HOW STREETS ARE PLOWED IN ANN ARBOR

The City of Ann Arbor strives to maintain roads in the winter in order to provide a driving surface that is safe to use at reasonable speeds. The city does not follow a bare pavement policy because it is cost prohibitive, can have negative impacts on the storm water system and waterways, cause damage to roads and, in some cases, may not provide the safest roadway.

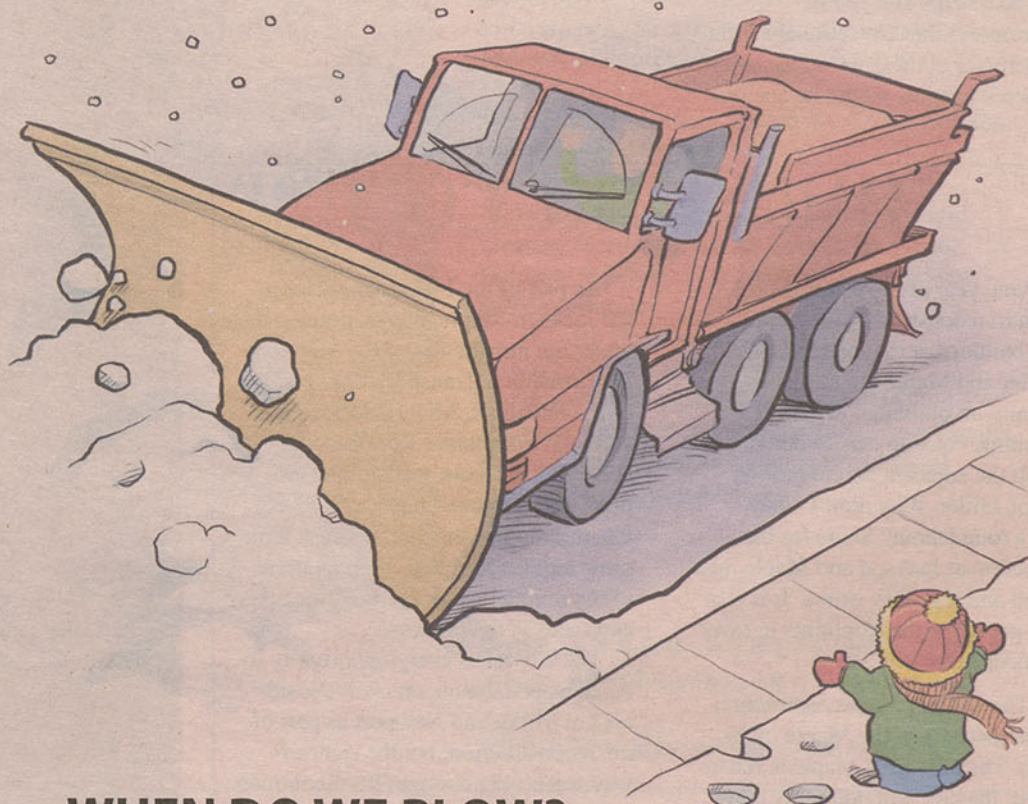
THE BASICS

- The city is responsible for plowing 98 miles of major roads and 197 miles of residential streets.
- The goal is to treat all streets within 24 hours of an "average" 4-inch snowstorm.
- Trunk lines, major roads and the next day's solid waste routes are plowed first.
- The city uses salt to treat trunk lines and major roads and a 95/5 percent sand/salt mixture for select residential streets and locations.
- Trucks and plows can be monitored via the web at a2gov.org/snow.
- The city's snow desk is activated during heavy storms. Call 734.794.6367 from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. with questions or to report trouble spots.
- Schools and privately owned areas are responsible for their own de-icing and plowing.

SNOW EMERGENCIES

When a snow emergency is declared, special parking restrictions may go into effect. Where street parking is normally permitted, restrictions would allow vehicles to be removed so city services and emergency vehicle access can be maintained. "Snow emergency" streets must be kept clear of parked cars at all times during the emergency. Vehicles left in place on these streets may be ticketed and towed.

Residents will be alerted to a snow emergency via CTN Channel 16, a2gov.org (city website), Facebook (facebook.com/theCityOfAnnArbor), Twitter (@A2GOV) and local media.



WHEN DO WE PLOW?

A light snow or ice event will be addressed with chemical de-icing agents. Treatment begins with trunk lines, major roads, bridges, signalized intersections and selected streets with curves or intersections with stop signs. The response starts with the snowfall and takes four to five hours to complete after snowfall has ceased.

After trunk lines and major streets are treated, crews move to residential/local streets with additional traction agents, such as sand.

DEFINITIONS:

Trunk line: defined by state and federal law; takes priority for snow control/removal; serves vital role in transportation and connect to highways.

Major road: critical for travel within the city limits. May or may not connect to highways.

Residential/local street: most homes, apartments and businesses reside along residential/local streets.

After heavy snowfall of 4 inches or more, additional equipment and plows are deployed and the snow desk is activated. Crews and equipment are utilized as circumstances dictate. After trunk lines and major streets are treated or plowed, residential streets are addressed. During heavy snow storms, winter maintenance equipment is staffed on a 24-hour schedule (12-hour shifts) until all city-maintained streets are treated.

You can help large emergency vehicles and solid waste collection trucks by removing your car from curbside parking during and after a heavy snow storm.

a2gov.org/snow

Outside



BOB FELDMAN

Finches in Love

A backyard Valentine vision

February weather does nothing toward conjuring up images of cute little pink-skinned cupids and rosy red Valentine hearts. However, there are real live romances going on outside.

The accompanying photo was taken in our backyard in the dead of winter. The posing "lovebirds" shown are house finches.

The courtship season for unattached house finches begins in January and runs through March. As you can see from the photo, the male sports some romantic red. The redder the guy's feathers, the better his chances with the girls. The coloration and courting time of these little birds makes house finches a perfect symbol of romance for Valentine's Day.

While humans and their habitat adversely affect many animals, the well-named house finch actually not only survives but thrives amongst us. The definitive source we use for factual background, Birds of North America Online (bna.birds.cornell.edu), points out that these finches are fond of settled areas. More specifically, in the eastern U.S., house finches prefer an environment with buildings, lawns, and small conifers. There are fewer of them in rural areas. And they don't like the deep forest at all.

Nesting may begin as early as mid-March. Finches will make use of any kind of a platform, from a windowsill to a rock ledge. In southeast Michigan, pine

and spruce trees are favorite sites for nests built in March and April; in May you may find them nesting among the ivy growing on buildings.

Although these finches are very common—one estimate is that there are over a billion of them in North America—it is possible that unless you are a birder actively looking for avian species, happen on a nest, or have put out bird feeders, you may not see a lot of them. Unlike similarly sized house sparrows, house finches generally do not show up at sidewalk cafes for whatever crumbs may be dropped.

We do know from our own observations that house finches have a liking for forsythia buds. We recently saw this liking carried to an extreme when a female

chased off a male who was gorging himself on our backyard shrubbery. There was room for two on that stem but she was apparently unwilling to share. Guess food comes before romance.

While they eat buds and certain orchard fruits, house finches are mainly seedeaters. We stock our backyard feeders with their favorite black oil sunflower seeds, and enjoy these birds year round. We see fewer of them in winter—populations in southeast Michigan are smallest in November through January, increase by mid-February, and are at a maximum by early April—but there are plenty of them during all seasons to delight the eye.

If hanging out a backyard bird feeder is not practical, look for these birds wherever an appropriate food source may be found. In the winter, this will most likely be someone else's bird feeder—but keep an eye out for finches in flowering shrubbery where the buds have set.

—Bob & Jorja Feldman

As you can see from the photo, the male sports some romantic red. The redder the guy's feathers, the better his chances with the girls.



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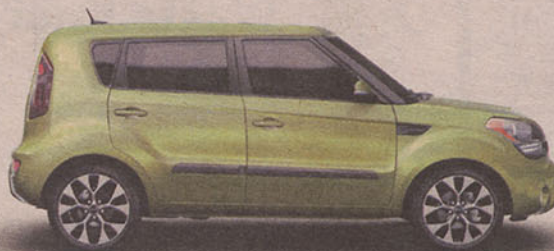
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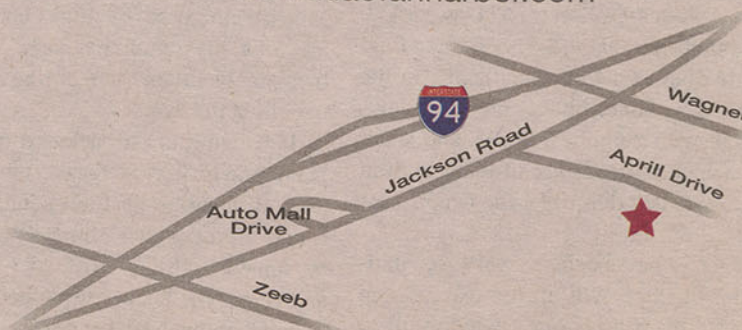
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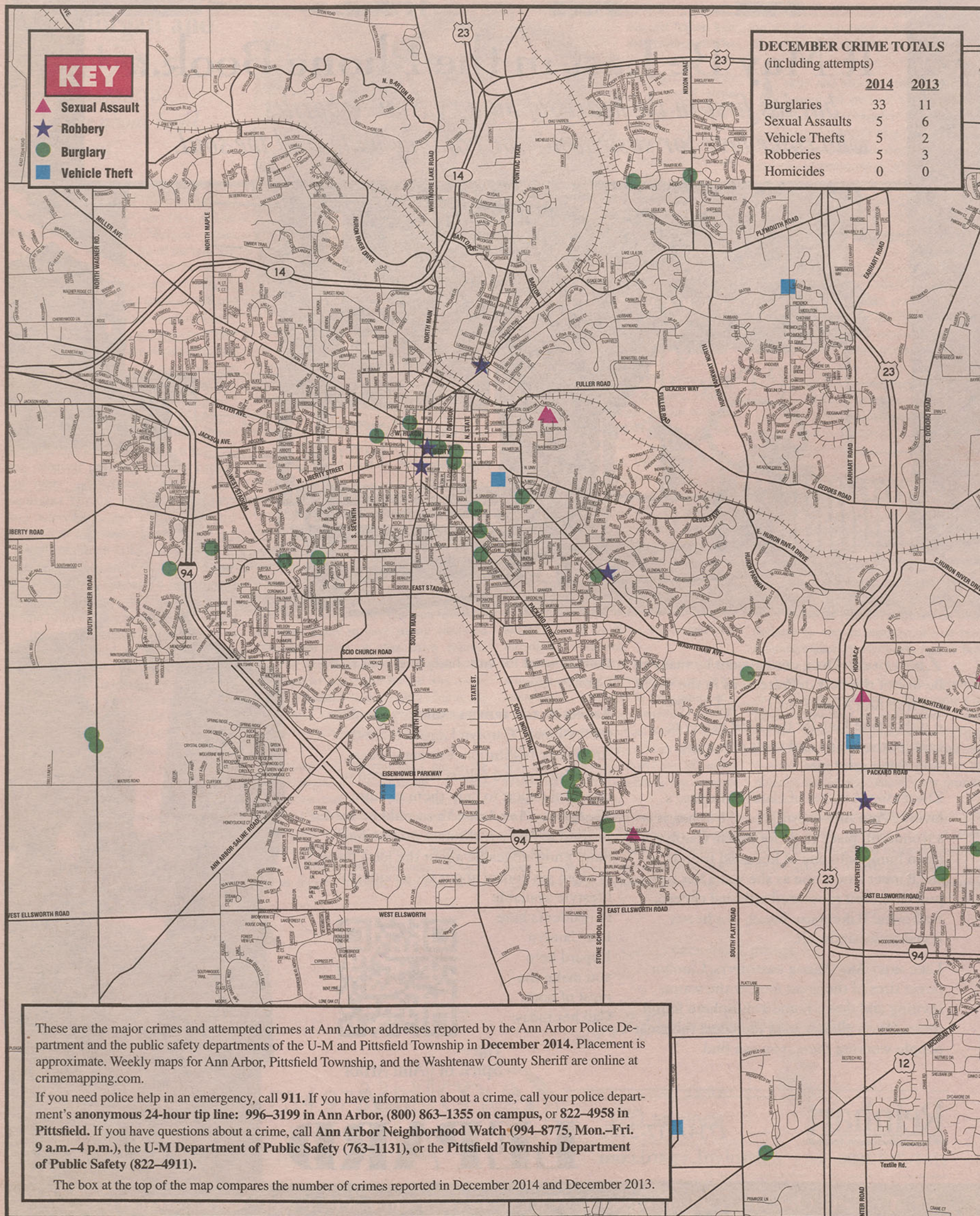


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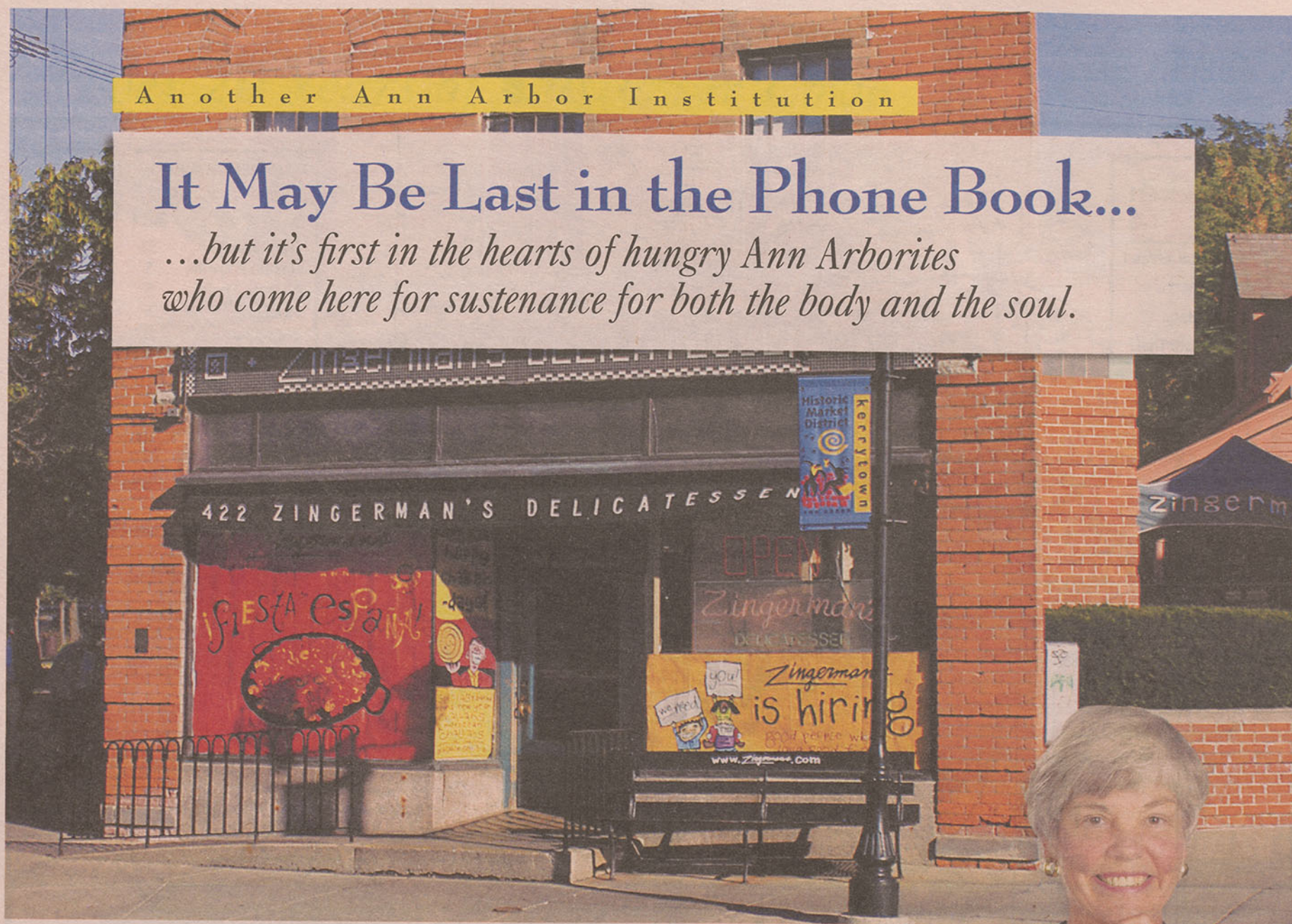
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Ann Arborites

Mary Morgan and Dave Askins

Getting people to care more about local government

“We didn’t get married because the Chinese government said we have to!” says Dave Askins indignantly. He and Mary Morgan—editor and publisher, respectively, of the late *Ann Arbor Chronicle*—tied the knot in 1989, a few months before departing to China for a two-year stint teaching English. Morgan has just recalled how their employer there would not hire them as an unmarried couple; Askins bristles at the implication that they got married for any reason other than love. Morgan responds with a tolerant “oh, honey” laugh—and changes the subject.

Morgan and Askins have been mixing marriage and work ever since. They launched the *Chronicle*—which featured very detailed coverage of city council and other governmental meetings—on September 2, 2008, their nineteenth wedding anniversary. They retired it on their twenty-fifth anniversary last fall.

While freelance writers did some of the work, Askins estimates that they personally attended 180 meetings a year (though some are broadcast, they thought it important to be there in person). Advertising and reader contributions—which came to about 40 percent of the revenue the year before they closed—paid the bills, but the work was all-consuming. And Morgan recalls “constant worry” to the point that if she took time out to bake cookies, she felt guilty for not selling *Chronicle* ads. This past Christmas, for the first time in six years, the couple found time to put up a tree.

Now the pace is picking up again. At year’s end they sent a fundraising letter to *Chronicle* supporters announcing their next bold goal: to “crack the nut of civic apathy.”



J. ADRIAN WYLLIE

The *Chronicle* kept Ann Arborites informed about local government and city issues. Their nonprofit, CivCity, will try to involve them. Morgan and Askins want to develop software to add a “civic ticker” to the local resource website ArborWiki.com, enabling and encouraging residents to post timely news items with links to background information. And they envision partnering with schools, libraries, and community centers to develop games (including a “Civic Quiz” run on social media) and projects where young people could learn about local government.

“The point is to make residents think about their role within civic life and to think about local government,” says Morgan. While Askins notes that Ann Arborites are more likely to have strong views on Obamacare than on downtown zoning, Morgan says that in her pre-*Chronicle* life as a reporter and editor for the *Ann Arbor News*, it became “increasingly clear to me you could actually make a difference in the community where you live.”

Askins and Morgan meet me at the Kerrytown Sweetwaters, a mile from their Old West Side home. Askins biked here, and Morgan bussed (they gave up their car five years ago). Askins, fifty, sports a fluffy beard and large owl glasses, and talks intensely and at length. Morgan, fifty-four, has a

glowing complexion and brown hair that feathers at the ends, and talks to the point. (Friendly as I found them both, I occasionally wished Askins would shut up and Morgan would say more.)

Both grew up in the suburbs of Indianapolis. Morgan edited the newspaper of her large high school and acted in school plays, while Askins, though a top student, claims he “wasn’t even on” his school’s social ladder. They met in a graduate class on foreign-language teaching at Indiana University. On the final day of class, Morgan slipped a note in Askins’ pocket with her phone number. Eighteen months later they were married and headed to China.

On their return in 1992, they landed in Rochester, New York. Morgan wrote for a business publication, while Askins completed the coursework for a PhD in linguistics at the University of Rochester and wrote a draft of a dissertation. But when his advisor insisted on major revisions, Askins recalls, his response was “OK, screw it”—and he said goodbye to a potential academic career. When Morgan landed a job at the *News*, the couple’s future direction was set.

Asked what each brought to the *Chronicle*, Morgan says, “My strength was in the connection I had built in the community. I think Dave brings an incredibly analytical mind that works in the world in unique ways.” Askins replies, “Mary Morgan is way more diplomatic than I am. My reflex is to be as blunt as possible in my interpersonal dealings.”

That toughness was on display in 2010, when the *Chronicle* sued the city, alleging that city council was holding closed sessions in violation of the state Open Meetings Act. It was ultimately dismissed, but

Askins claimed a moral victory: a follow-up article documented a dramatic drop in closed sessions after the suit was filed.

Askins and Morgan estimate that they poured 10 million words into the *Chronicle*. Though it’s doubtful anyone else read them all, they added up to an invaluable resource for anyone who cared about local government. When the closure was announced, many readers mourned. “The *Chronicle* was a labor of love—love of community and love of accurate reporting,” emails First Ward councilmember Sabra Briere.

Askins and Morgan are counting on that wave of goodwill to help bring CivCity to life. “Almost uniformly, people have said, ‘It’s a great idea, it’s needed,’” says Morgan. “Because of our experience with the *Chronicle*, they’re less skeptical.”

As the Observer went to press, the couple was anxiously awaiting the results of their December fundraising appeal. The group A2Geeks, which agreed to be their “fiscal sponsor,” planned to open and tally the tax-deductible checks in late January. The couple also are applying for a small grant. Their initial goal is \$100,000. That would be enough, Morgan says, to allow them to “do general planning and development, working out details for programs and services.”

If they raise less, she says, they will still launch CivCity, but incrementally. “We aren’t independently wealthy,” she says, and while Askins continues his small delivery-by-bicycle business, it’s far from a moneymaker. If necessary, one or both will take another job.

Askins expresses cautious optimism about CivCity’s prospects. He recalls with pleasure how the *Chronicle* partnered with the Ann Arbor District Library on its Summer Game: about fifteen individuals and families collected points by going to the polls in August and reporting on primary results.

“If we can accomplish that much with one tiny effort,” he says, “I’ve got to believe that we can begin to move the needle on the question of civic engagement.”

—Eve Silberman



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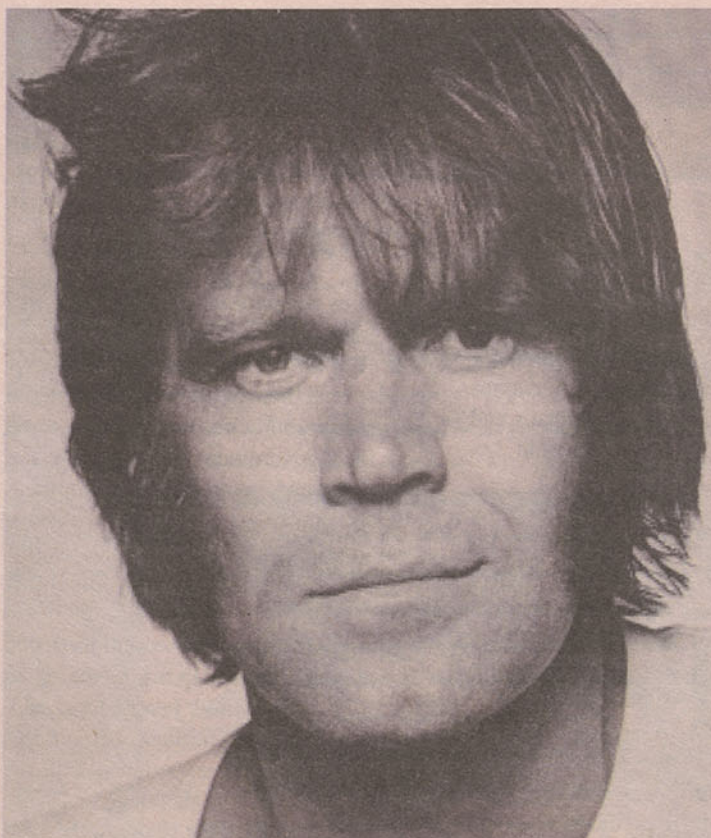
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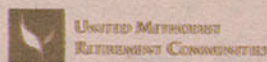
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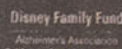
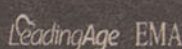
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"Our Deer Are Mostly Ann Arborites"

Gardeners and naturalists want the city to cull its growing herd. But is Ann Arbor ready for lethal measures?

by Margaret A. Leary

Maurita Holland says the last straw was when the deer ate her rain garden. The retired School of Information prof replaced a patch of turf with a sunken garden of native plants—only to discover that the deer that roam her northwest Ann Arbor neighborhood love native plants. Plus hostas, lilies, holly, and almost every other plant in her yard.

Bernie Banet's match in the powder keg was his frustration after years of fruitless attempts to get city and county officials to do something about his deer problem. A retiree who lives off Geddes near Gallup Park, Banet told WEMU-FM that, when he first saw deer in his neighborhood ten years ago, "he thought they added to that natural beauty." Then they ate his arbor vitae hedge and killed a pine tree.

Banet says he's been complaining to councilmembers and a county commissioner at least since 2009, but received only excuses for why nothing could be done. He thinks that's because no organized group was calling for steps to control the size of the herd. So he was excited last March to learn about Washtenaw Citizens for Ecological Balance (WC4EB).

In February and March, Holland and two other members of Wild Ones—a group promoting natural landscapes—shared their concerns with the Washtenaw County Parks

and Recreation Commission and the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners. They also formed WC4EB, enlisting Bernie Banet and others all over town: people whose landscapes were being eaten, whose backyards were littered with deer droppings, whose dogs had been hurt by deer, whose cars had collided with deer; and people who feared Lyme disease, which is spread by deer ticks.

When the new group approached city councilmembers, it found Ward 2 independent Jane Lumm most willing to listen. To build political backing, Holland worked her extensive personal network (she is past president of the Ann Arbor Rotary and of Master Gardeners of Washtenaw County); Banet used his own network and nextdoor.com. Other members launched a website, wc4eb.org, crammed with facts about deer and arguments for limiting their numbers.

By early summer, Banet says, "Jane saw she had public support and was willing to stick her neck out" by writing a resolution, in collaboration with city administrator Steve Powers. Adopted unanimously by city council in May, it asked staff to prepare a report on options for managing the deer population in consultation with the county parks, the U-M, the Humane Society of Huron Valley, and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

Powers' report recommended hiring a contractor to do "substantial work, including public engagement and information collection." It added: "If the plan recommends lethal methods, and City Council agrees with the plan, a cull could occur in Fall 2015."

Council unanimously accepted the report and appropriated \$20,000 to hire a consultant "to develop a community endorsed deer management plan." When that

plan comes back to council at the beginning of March, the city will face a difficult decision.

Ann Arbor is far from alone in its quandary. It's estimated that when European settlers arrived, about 20 million deer lived in what is now the United States. By 1900, commercial hunting had reduced their numbers to fewer than half a million. But once hunting was limited, the deer population bounced back with astonishing speed. Thanks to the virtual elimination of large predators and urban sprawl—which produced mile after mile of tasty, hunter-free lawns and landscaping—the U.S. is now home to at least 30 million deer.

"Scientists have shown that habitats and deer are most healthy when deer density ranges between 15–20 deer per square mile," the WC4EB writes on its website. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources' proposed target for the deer population in Washtenaw County is much higher: twenty-eight per square mile. But according to a report to the Washtenaw County parks commission last year, even that figure has already been exceeded. It estimated that the county has an average of thirty-five deer per square mile—and "[r]ecent aerial studies have shown the density in Ann Arbor to be up to 76 deer per square mile."

If either figure applies citywide, Ann Arbor could be home to 1,000 to 2,000 deer.

While such numbers are only guesstimates, there's no question the population is growing. One indicator: From 2004–2008, an average of thirty-two vehicle-deer crashes were reported annually. From 2009–2013, the toll jumped to forty-seven.

Herds now live permanently on the U-M's North Campus and in the Arboretum, and individual deer have been spotted everywhere from Water Hill to Burns Park. "The great majority of deer you see in the City were born here—they are mostly Ann Arborites," WC4EB member and landscape architect Chris Graham wrote in an email to the group. "It is our habitat full of food, cover, and no hunting that is immensely appealing and nurturing for them."

At the city's first public meeting on the issue, at Huron High in December, consultant Charles Fleetham conducted a scripted interview with MDNR biologist Kristin Bissell. If the community decides that deer are a problem, Bissell said, it will need to choose a method to solve it and know how it will measure the results. That metric could be deer per square mile, lessening conflict such as car-deer crashes, or assessing populations of songbirds or native plants. Asked about the most common nonlethal methods

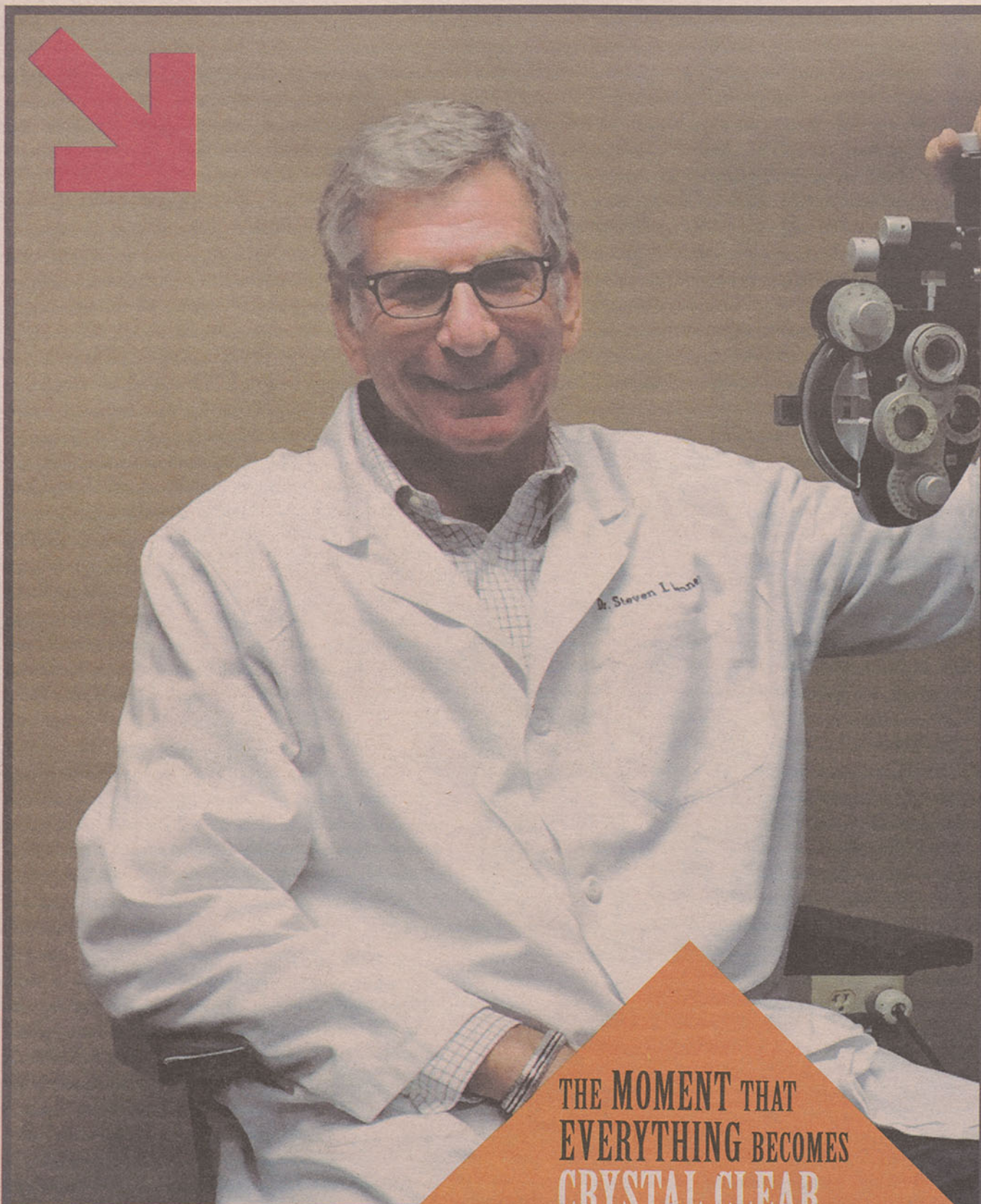
MDNR biologist Kristin Bissell told December's public meeting the state does have a system in place that permits communities to kill excess deer—but, she cautioned, "once you decide to manage the population you are never done, which is why you have to have community support over years."

to deal with overabundant deer, she mentioned feeding bans, signage, and clearing brush from roadsides—the latter two to reduce car-deer collisions. "No contraceptive is registered for use in Michigan," she added. "Our deer specialist is not aware of any Midwest community that has done it." Trap and release, she said, "is not on the table. No one in Michigan wants more deer."

The MDNR does have a system in place that permits communities to kill excess deer—but, the biologist cautioned, "once you decide to manage the population you are never done, which is why you have to have community support over years."

The first public speaker, Sandy Fortier, introduced herself by saying she lives near the Foster Road bridge on five acres that "I planted all myself." Though deer have







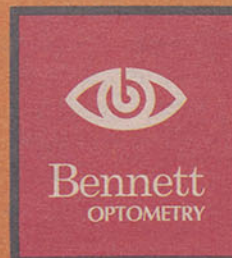
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"Our Deer Are Mostly Ann Arborites"

eaten her flowers and all her shrubs, she said, she knows "nothing more beautiful ... I don't want anyone killing my deer."

Jill Fritz, Michigan director of the Humane Society of the United States, and Humane Society of Huron Valley president Tanya Hilgendorf and education director Karen Patterson urged controlling the population through nonlethal methods such as sterilization. Others urged unspecified nonlethal methods in order to "show our children nonviolent solutions."

Robert Simms of Ann Arbor Hills voiced an opposite opinion: without predators, he said, "the deer grew to large numbers and will run out of food. Shooting is better than starvation." Another speaker described a deer injuring her dog when it got too close to a fawn. Of the twenty-eight people who spoke, eighteen supported lethal methods to control the deer population.

Communities around the country, from suburban Boston to Minneapolis, are already "culling" their deer herds, either with volunteer bow hunters, paid sharpshooters, or both. But other cities have debated using lethal methods and decided not to—or used them, then stopped.

That's what happened in Barton Hills. The exclusive village just north of Ann Arbor is at least a decade ahead of the city in its deer problem. A few years ago, a longtime resident recalled that the first time she saw a deer in Barton Hills was in 1982. Just eighteen years later, the DNR estimated there were 600 deer in the village—two for every human resident.

By 2000, Barton Hills was hiring sharpshooters to thin its deer herd. "The removal of deer in Barton Hills over the 2000s was hugely successful," Chris Graham emails. "Some 700 pregnant does were removed from the properties where folks were very happy to have them taken—the difference in the flora (I have used Trillium as an indicator species) was quite obviously positive."

By 2009, however, support for culling had faded. With fewer deer, there was less damage, and new residents opposed continuing the hunt. Inevitably, the deer population swelled again, and according to Graham, within a couple of years environmental damage was again evident. So, Graham says, "they tried a more normal approach the year before last," hiring hunters who set up two baiting stations far from any houses. He says that didn't work, because the hunters didn't go out often enough and the deer quickly learned to avoid the stations.

Graham, who supports culling, sees several lessons for the city: consider bow-hunting rather than rifles; set up enough stations and use them often and early; cull at least once a year; be patient because it takes time for the environment to recover; and don't stop once the herd is reduced.



COURTESY WC4EB



COURTESY WC4EB



MARGARET A. LEARY

Population density estimates suggest the city could be home to 1,000 to 2,000 deer. There's now a resident herd on the North Campus (top and, bottom, hostas browsed by the Bentley Library). As their numbers grow, so have vehicle-deer crashes—including a messy one at the Ann Arbor Airport last fall (center).

The Huron-Clinton Metroparks have been culling deer since the 1990s. Paul Muelle, the system's chief of natural resources, says the impetus was fewer ground-nesting birds in the park—deer have been known to eat eggs and nestlings. Tests with fenced "exclosures" revealed that the deer were also devouring "spring wildflowers and small trees."

Muelle says that from 1999 to 2011, a total of 3,139 deer were removed from the eight HCMA parks. Those that remain, he says, are healthier—heavier and less prone to disease. Based on the Metroparks' experience, Muelle believes that "a controlled hunt in Ann Arbor could be successful ... The key is understanding that it is a long-term process that won't be over in a year."

The Metroparks have no residents, and answer to no voters. Could Ann Arbor really reach a "community consensus" to use lethal methods to control its growing deer herd?

Tanya Hilgendorf hopes not. "We empathize with the frustration of those who have unwanted deer trampling their

backyards," she emails. "They have been contending with the issue without help. They want remedy. That is very understandable. But ... I don't see us prepared as a community, a university town, to shoot deer with guns or arrows year after year in our neighborhoods and parks, and deal with the ugliness of that decision."

Hilgendorf points to Rochester Hills, where car-deer crashes were reduced "through awareness, education and specific prevention strategies." Outside Michigan, she says, "many communities are sterilizing, either temporarily through 'vaccines' or permanently, and finding satisfactory results reducing the population over time."

Maurita Holland and her allies in WC4EB respond by pointing to the example of Cornell University in central New York, which tried surgically sterilizing does, but ended up bringing in bow-hunters to thin its campus herd. They also quote a study published by Cornell's extension service this past December, which concludes, "There is no peer-reviewed, published evidence to suggest that the use of non-lethal methods (currently available and permissible) alone can reduce deer populations to target levels."

Holland writes that her group "seeks a sustainable, long-term program that addresses Ann Arbor's problem of deer overabundance, acknowledges our city's value of the natural environment, advances our stewardship of that environment and all of its inhabitants, and assures the protection of our citizens' health, safety, and physical property." WC4EB wants the city to adopt measurable goals to reduce the number of deer in natural areas so that key indicator species return and flourish; to largely eliminate complaints about landscape damage; and to steadily reduce the number of car-deer crashes.

Lethal methods will be necessary, Holland believes, to meet the objectives: "We cannot wait years or decades for new [birth control] drugs or technologies to be developed," she concludes.

After a second public hearing, at 7 p.m. on February 5 at Slauson Middle School, deer will be back on city council's agenda next month. Meanwhile, after mating last fall, the does of Ann Arbor will each bear two or three hungry fawns this spring. ■

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SUPER BLOGGER

by Craig Ross



How important is Brian Cook's MGoBlog? Just ask Dave Brandon.



RYAN LOWRY

For a day, Cook was nervous that maybe, just maybe, the athletic director's email wasn't legitimate. But it was.

In October, someone called "Wolverine Devotee" posted an email message on mgoblog.com. Supposedly sent by U-M athletic director Dave Brandon to a fan, it ended curtly: "I suggest you find a new team to support. We will be fine without you."

Brian Cook, MGoBlog's founder and owner, pays people to monitor its discussion boards. Concerned the email might be a fake, one of them removed Wolverine Devotee's post. Would the embattled AD really blow off a fan so brusquely?

Cook put the email back online. Though he'd never published them, he'd seen other emails attributed to Brandon, and this one matched their style, punctuation, and content. Computer consultants also concluded the message was likely to be real.

For a day, Cook was nervous that maybe, just maybe, the post wasn't legitimate. But it was. MGoBlog readers began to send in other rude messages from the athletic director. In one, Brandon told a fan to "quit drinking and go to bed."

"Emailgate" went national. Keith Olbermann picked up the story on ESPN—and credited Cook's site.

Brandon had problems bigger than MGoBlog (see "Football in Chaos," Inside Ann Arbor, November 2014). But so many people visit the site—more than

300,000 a month, according to quantcast.com—that it focused fans' anger in a way no newspaper could. Many of the concerns about Brandon were either esoteric (the every-game-a-Super Bowl hype) or more or less rumor (micromanagement or interference with coaches). The emails, however, were palpable.

Only Brandon can say for sure why he resigned at the end of October, and he's not talking. But if Cook's site didn't exist, the former AD's tenure at Michigan might have been longer—and certainly would have been easier.

On Slate.com, Ben Mathis-Lilley celebrated Brandon's departure as a rare victory for college football fans: "[T]he fact that the community around college teams is an actual grassroots community does account for much of those teams' appeal ...," he wrote. "Over the last few months in Ann Arbor, the fans spoke and a team listened. When's the last time you could say that?"

Few people are able to make a living at what they love. Fewer still can do it in an endeavor that bears little connection to their professional training.

Cook, thirty-five, earned bachelor's and master's degrees in computer science from the U-M. But he soon found the corporate world stifling and work as a software engineer "less than meaningful." So in the spring of 2006 he parted ways with his employer—a denouement he suspects was "mutually satisfactory."

Instead, he turned to MGoBlog, which he'd started in 2004 to share his passion for U-M sports. Though then more or less a hobby, the site gave him the legitimacy to start writing for pay, at AOL's FanHouse. By the close of 2006, he figures, he'd made as much as \$12,000 online, counting a few stray bucks he made playing Internet poker. And he was happier living in a "crappy apartment" and doing what he cared about than being stuck in the nine-to-five corporate shuffle.

Though Cook's is only one of twenty or so U-M sports blogs, its combination of geeky intensity, good writing, and impolitic bluntness stood out. Soon, readers were showing up in growing numbers.

Cook is a fine skier and played some soccer as a kid, but he wouldn't call himself a jock. He was born in Saudi Arabia (his father is an oil engineer), not exactly the hotbed of American football. But by the time he was in high school, his family had moved to the Detroit 'burbs. Cook's grandfather, a U-M grad, has held season tickets to Michigan football since 1958, and the family has tailgated near the stadium for fifty years. Cook caught the Michigan sports bug.

For him, though, just watching games wasn't enough; he wanted to *understand* what he was watching. And that meant work. Watching film. Reading technical analyses. Going to coaching clinics. "Football is hard," he explained on his WTKA radio morning show "MGoBlog Roundtable" (where I'm one of his regulars). Learning to really understand football, it turns out, wasn't too different from becoming a software engineer.

Unlike most journalists, Cook isn't interested in an inside view of the sports he covers. He has turned down offers to sit in the press box at football games ("That's how they get their claws into you," he recently told *Men's Journal*). He doesn't attend press conferences or seek interviews with players or coaches. He wants to be able to criticize or compliment without getting personal.

MGoBlog makes analysis an art. During the football season, Cook analyzes every play of the prior week's game. Not just "what happened" but the formation, the defense, why a play worked or why it didn't.

This can be tricky for someone who has never played or coached football. And the readers showing up en masse inevitably include some coaches and ex-players. They sometimes respond by critiquing Cook's analysis—debating, for example, whether the middle linebacker or a defensive tackle was responsible for a particular gap on a particular play. Those arguments can get edgy, even nasty. But from them, Cook has learned—and given his readers a chance to learn as well.

Engineers aren't known, stereotypically, as elegant wordsmiths, but Cook has a fresh and original voice—

influenced, he says, by certain strains of iconoclastic science fiction. (A November post, for example, described driving at night through northern Indiana, where "the flat American expanse of a pitch-black highway makes prime brooding habitat.") Fans often refer to his site as "the blog," and it is a rare Michigan sports event where you won't hear some reference to it in the stands. People ask one another "what Brian is like" or where he sits at games. Never has celebrity been so connected to a bleacher seat shared in cyberspace.

Cook had mixed feelings about Jim Hackett as interim AD. On one hand, he wasn't Brandon. On the other hand, Cook wrote, "The chances that the best available athletic director is a retired CEO who hasn't worked as an AD ever are about 1%."

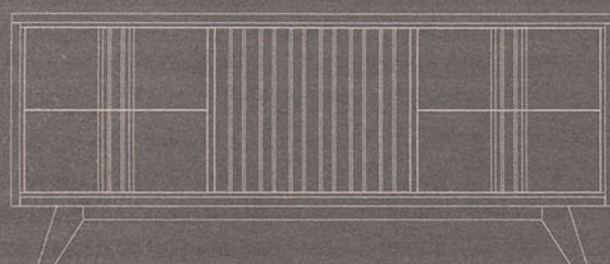
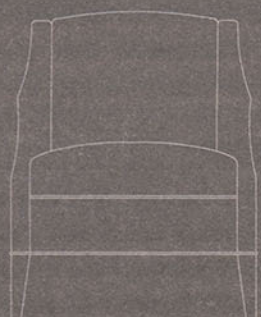
But as Hackett took charge—firing Brady Hoke with as much compassion as possible and then launching a surprisingly discreet search for a new head coach—Cook began to warm to him. Cook liked that nothing was leaking into the media and that what did "leak" turned out to be fake. (When Hoke was fired, one insider called to assure me that Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops had the job. Thankfully, I kept the "scoop" to myself.) And when Michigan made a genuine offer to Jim Harbaugh, Cook gave Hackett his props: "Michigan assembled a kickass offer to come back to Ann Arbor and run the town," he wrote. "It is now highly public. If Harbaugh doesn't come, that's on him ... If it doesn't work out, okay. Jim Hackett still did this as well as he could, and if Michigan does have to move on to Plan B they can at least do so as a unit, knowing that they did their level best here."

But it did work out—and not just for Michigan football fans. When I talked to him in early December, Cook told me that MGoBlog was logging eight million page views per month. As Hoke's Michigan career ended and the search for his successor played out, that number kept climbing—from mid-December through mid-January, Quantcast counted more than twelve million page views. Cook's income is now comparable to what he earned as a software engineer. Most of MGoBlog's revenue comes from Google ads and sales of MGoBlog merchandise—including a T-shirt that reads, "Stop drinking and go to bed."

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Jim Roth worked construction for decades before becoming a full-time blacksmith.



Andrew Kyte moved back to town after training in California and Germany.

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Fifteen years ago Andrew Kyte, then a teenager, walked into the workshop of Mike Wolfe, a blacksmith on Ann Arbor's west side, and wrote his name on the wall above the door. "I wanted to leave my mark," he says, "and I wanted someone to take me seriously and teach me."

At about the same age, a decade earlier Jim Roth walked into a meeting of the Michigan Artist Blacksmith's Association at the house of Scott Lankton, another well-known local blacksmith. Roth caught a whiff of Lankton's coal-fired forge and was instantly transported back to his grandfather's farm with its coal stove and measured days of hard, physical labor.

"The coal scent was beautiful to me. It reminded me of the farm," he says. "Nobody knew me, but I begged for a job a couple days a week—not even for pay."

The path to becoming a blacksmith is more like a rutted two-track than a paved thoroughfare. Neither Roth nor Kyte woke up one morning and said, "Maybe I'll be a blacksmith." No one said to them, "Why don't you become a blacksmith when you grow up?" They didn't check out college catalogs for degrees in blacksmithing.

The craft, however, has been around for millennia. Leif Erikson left a handful of roughly forged iron nails

to the craft an artistry and a contemporary aesthetic.

The time-honored process of heating and

In the end, they reached a similar place by circuitous paths, motivated solely by love of the work. They learned a craft that, while no longer dying, remains uncommon. And both have recently opened their own full-time metalworking shops.

HEARTH and HEART

Blacksmiths Andrew Kyte and Jim Roth forge hot metal into art.

in Newfoundland as his calling card to the New World in 1000 A.D. In colonial days, the village blacksmith heated metal and hammered it into horseshoes and hooks, handles and household trinkets—all the mundane necessities of daily life. In Europe, some villages still have their own blacksmiths, and they still make hooks and handles, gates and shovels. But now, on both sides of the Atlantic, the work of the best contemporary blacksmiths has blown apart the stereotype of the old-time smithy.

In the 1970s a few visionaries began to reimagine what blacksmithing might mean. They experimented with new materials and techniques, expanded the scope of hand-wrought products, and brought

hand-forming metal is the same, and the forge, hammer, and anvil remain at the heart of the craft. But blacksmiths today might use stainless steel, aluminum, copper, fancy alloys, or a combination of metals. Some also employ tools—laser cutters, torches, and giant pneumatic hammers—that allow them to work on grand scales—an entire staircase of metal rather than just the railing; enormous and elaborate gates and doors. "House jewelry," Lankton and others call it.

Craftsmen like Lankton are rare. Both Kyte and Roth struggled to identify what they wanted to do and how to acquire the skill. Their apprenticeships each took many years.

Jim Roth says he comes from a family of overachievers. "I have long fingers, so my mother wanted me to be a pianist," he says. But five-year-old Jim wanted to be a garbage man. He recalls formative years on his grandfather's farm that instilled in him the need to work hard with his hands.

He managed to make it through college and landed a job at Jordache in sales. He lasted only two years before he laid aside the suit and tie forever and went to work in construction. The pay was far lower, but "I absolutely loved the physical labor."

By the time of that fortuitous meeting of the Michigan blacksmiths, Roth's construction business was thriving. For the next two decades or so, Roth worked part-time with Lankton, first as an apprentice, then as an employee, then as a partner, all the while keeping his construction business going.

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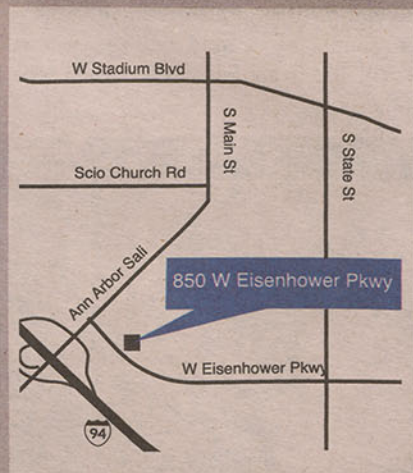
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HEARTH and HEART

Roth's new sign brackets for the Washington Square building echo diamond shapes from the building's original canopies.



COURTESY JIM ROTH

Over the years, he built a rustic shop next to his house on Patterson Lake in Pinckney and collected tools to fill it. Eventually, he opened Hell Creek Forge, where he did blacksmithing as a side venture.

Then, last summer, Roth became a full-time blacksmith. He says his wife, Kelly, told him to "just do one thing. She could see how happy I was working in the shop."

It's hard to imagine a more pleasant spot for a workshop. Hell Creek Forge is about fifty paces from Roth's house overlooking the lake. On cold winter days, the woodstove glows with a cozy warmth. The garage-sized shop is uncluttered. "You don't need a lot of tools," he says. "You just need the right ones."

The anvil and forge take center stage, but the fan feeding the forge—the coal-fueled hearth where metal is heated—is far smaller and quieter than most. Roth likes to listen to music while he works, and he doesn't want the fan drowning it out. The music doesn't stand a chance, though, against his power hammer, which he uses two shape and texturize metal and

Roth makes the architectural pieces that are the basic fare of most blacksmiths, like the railings for Howell's historic courthouse. Roth was commissioned to make them "look like they were built 125 years ago," like the courthouse itself.

A more unusual job was the set of canopy and sign brackets that Roth designed for the Washington Square building on the corner of Fourth and Washington. For this major piece, he created the industrial-strength look the owner wanted and echoed the diamond shapes that were part of the original canopy around the sides. With an understated green patina, the result is handsome and symmetric. As with most hand-wrought objects, it might go unnoticed, but once it is really *seen*, the intrinsic beauty is incredibly attractive.

Andrew Kyte has just moved back to Ann Arbor with his wife and two preschool boys. But he, too, spent years identifying what he wanted to do, then seeking out the mentors who would get him there. That journey has taken him to some of the best metalworkers on both coasts as well as to an apprenticeship at a renowned forge in Germany.

In his early twenties, after working briefly with Wolfe in the shop where he wrote his name on the wall, Kyte moved to Washington, D.C., and worked in a custom jewelry studio. Jewelry making has all the elements of blacksmithing but on a tiny scale. It also involves working with precious metals, such as gold and silver, which traditional blacksmiths rarely see.

But Kyte is a big guy, and jewelry was simply too small. He had a talent for the work, but this wasn't the right scale.

Michael Bondi, on the other hand, works on a grand scale. The San Francisco area metalworker, one of the major forces behind the renaissance of blacksmithing in the United States, specializes in architectural and interior projects, often incorporating various combinations of metals—copper, bronze, stainless steel, alloys. His work is found in the homes and businesses of the rich and famous: Trump, Disney, Wolfgang Puck, Alice Waters.

THE PATH TO BECOMING A BLACKSMITH IS MORE LIKE A RUTTED TWO-TRACK THAN A PAVED THOROUGHFARE. NEITHER ROTH NOR KYTE WOKE UP ONE MORNING AND SAID, "MAYBE I'LL BE A BLACKSMITH."

which "takes the place of ten very strong men with sledgehammers."

Now, with two sons grown and his work life focused on his craft, Roth is indeed a happy man. "This is like retirement," he says. "The work's harder. I spend more time at it than anything I've done in my life, but I'm proud of what I do. It's more like in my body. It's more like part of me."

When he learned about Germany's Atelier Zimmermann, Kyte recalls, "I thought they were the baddest of the bad." He made these chapel candle stands during his year there.

COURTESY ANDREW KYTE



Kyte worked with Bondi for three years. He calls it his introduction to "big-boy work. I worked ten-hour days, forging all day long." He worked with various metals and with 200-ton presses and 400-pound power hammers, making the parts that would eventually become enormous gates, doors, and railings for those showpiece homes and offices. "It was a test to see if this was really what I wanted to do," he says. "And it was. I was still in love with it."

From there, Kyte went to work in the Atelier Zimmermann in Germany. "I'd seen the Zimmermanns' work in magazines, and I thought they were the baddest of the bad," he says.

Paul Zimmermann is world renowned for bringing an artistic aesthetic and contemporary design to traditional blacksmithing. His work ranges from functional pieces, such as gates and furniture, to what he calls "ceremonial art," such as memorials and grave markers. His work is in museums in England, Germany, and the United States. Students come from all over the world to apprentice with the elder Zimmermann and his son, Heiner.

Kyte spent a year in Germany, absorbing Zimmermanns' technique and design philosophy and incidentally developing a taste for sausage and beer. He learned that the work is something you do from your heart, not something you just get out the door. "If you bend a wire to hang a light from the ceiling, you take the time to bend it perfectly," he says, "or you come up with a better way to bend it."

The Zimmermanns' philosophy is usually translated as "shape is limitation; design is disclosure." "You can do all the crazy filigree you want, but that doesn't matter," Kyte explains. "What matters is that the work fits within the space and that it feels right when a person rubs his hand along it. That it's beautiful, but it's also intentional. It does what it was intended to do."

Returning to this country after such a rich and formative experience was like a slap of cold water. But his wife was expecting a baby, and life was taking on a momentum of its own. Kyte found a job at Ferra Designs, a metal fabrication shop at the Brooklyn Navy Yard in New York City.

Ferra Designs makes big stuff for big clients, from a huge, mirror-polished, stainless-steel tube slide (yes, like those in a playground) for a billionaire's penthouse to eight-foot fragrance bottles for a storefront display for clothing designer Marc Jacobs. At Ferra, Kyte absorbed the nuances of clean, contemporary design and learned to work within extremely tight tolerances—"real precision fabrication," he says.

Often, on the long commute home, covered with grime and smelling like metal, Kyte would have the seat on the crowded subway all to himself. "It was difficult coming back to the hard, cold city," he recalls.

So last summer, he moved back to Ann Arbor with his family and bought Mike Wolfe's forge—where his name and phone number are still legible on the wall.

Kyte's shop—half of a large pole barn—is cluttered with machinery and dusty from decades of coal smoke and daily use. The forge at one end of the shop is dwarfed by three power hammers of various sizes. Two hefty anvils stand nearby. Kyte is slowly rearranging machinery and making the space his own.

In the Ann Arbor area at least, the baton is passing to a new generation of blacksmiths. They've been mentored well. But whether the craft continues to develop and evolve and whether the public appetite for hand-wrought pieces remains strong are up for grabs.

"There's a heart and an intentionality in hand-wrought work," says Kyte. "You aren't just making a part. You're intending to make a beautiful part. But if people don't know what good work is, the craft will be lost."

Why choose such a demanding and uncertain trade? "Because of the beauty in it," says Kyte. "With metalworking, I make things absolutely—out of nothing but the raw materials—and they stand the test of time."

"I'm never going to get rich," says Roth, "but if I die doing this, [my life will] have been perfect."




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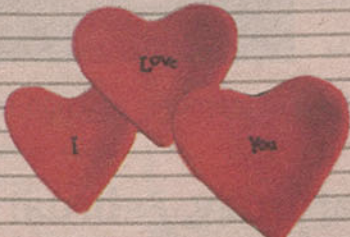
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Restaurant Reviews

Centsible Eats

Bargains to savor

Whoa! Once I toted up the numbers, I realized the holidays had seriously thrown our household food budget out of whack. The new year demanded financial restraint. Polling acquaintances brought me a boatload of cheap eats ideas—inexpensive restaurants, bargain dishes at more expensive places, happy hours and daily specials, and store deals.

This month I've narrowed the suggestions to restaurant options at regular lunch and dinner prices. Certainly not exhaustive and absolutely, unabashedly subjective, consider this list one woman's tips on where to start your search for a bargain meal.

I begin at my established lunch favorite: Ypsilanti's **Dos Hermanos**, takeout only, where two tamales (\$1 each)—pork or cheese and roasted jalapeno for me—and a ripe avocado scooped from the vegetable bin lets me walk out the door only \$3 poorer and deliciously happy. Do cheap eats get any better?

Following a colleague's tip for hot-and-sour soup to **San Fu**, a Chinese storefront in the South Main Market, I discovered an incredibly inexpensive menu, most dishes selling for less than \$10. But those I tried were unmemorable though plentiful, fine if the wallet dictates thriftiness. However, a sample of San Fu's soup (\$3.60/quart) led a friend to champion downtown **TK Wu's** version. He was right. For 40¢ more, TK Wu's quart of soup was crammed full of vegetables and outstanding flavor—enough, with a couple of eggrolls, to keep two people content.

I could also cross Liberty and tuck myself into a table at **Tomukun Noodle Bar**, where most of its all-day menu is \$10 or less. Some real stand-outs are the tantalizing pork or tempura shrimp buns (two for \$6), the Korean seafood and vegetable pancake (\$8), and the *okonomiyaki* (\$10), a funkier Japanese cake. Both pancakes are thick, big as a dinner plate, and easily a meal for one. The evening my husband and I shared the two, along with both types of buns, we seriously overate, but each delicious bite demanded another one. Nor can one go wrong with most of Tomukun's noodle and rice dishes; all are carefully made and ample.

Jerusalem Garden is, of course, a well-known downtown fixture for cheap eats. But did you know about the DIY bargain? \$3.50 buys a bag of ten falafel patties. Add some pita bread (40¢ a piece), a couple of large containers of tabbouli, fattoush, hummus or baba ghanoush (\$5–\$5.50), and you've scored a meal for three to four under \$25—extraordinary.

Further afield, I got several tips for **Exotic Bakeries** and **Syrian Cuisine** in the Courtyard Shops. I've never taken to



At Ypsilanti's Dos Hermanos, takeout only, two tamales and a ripe avocado scooped from the vegetable bin lets me walk out the door only \$3 poorer and deliciously happy. Do cheap eats get any better?

Arab pies—too much soft white bread dough swallowing up too little filling. Exotic Bakeries' pies, though, present a better balance, and I enjoyed the spiced chicken roll (\$2.97) and spinach-feta round (\$3.49). The saffron-y chicken pastilla in puff pastry (\$2.26) also came recommended, but they were out the times I visited. Grilled kefta (ground meat lozenges, \$2.26 each), are inexpensive, but of the three options—curried chicken, minty turkey or spiced beef—only the first had much flavor or moistness. What I relished most were some of the salads and sides (\$8.49 a pound), particularly tiny stewed okra, fried eggplant and peppers, black-eyed pea salad, and roasted cauliflower in creamy tahini dressing.

A caterer friend directed me south to the **Broadway Café**. The menu is very small—six Korean dishes, a cheese steak hoagie, fries, rice, and kimchi. My friend's recommendation is the hoagie, and the times I visited, the clientele seemed split down the middle, about half ordering Korean, the other the sandwich. Without a doubt, the hoagie (\$8.40) is weird—but in a pleasantly welcome junk-food-fix way. Steaming hot, thinly sliced *bulgogi* beef is loaded on a soft white bun with gooey orange cheese and sautéed onions. *Gochujang*, the Korean hot pepper paste, comes on the side, and I advise dosing it liberally over the meat, along with some kimchi. I also tried the chicken bi bim bab (\$9.45)—decent, if not laudable—and the wonderfully transliterated soon doo boo

or tofu stew (\$10.35), a big bowl of soft curds, poached egg, and bits of shrimp and beef in a red pepper-flecked broth. Accompaniments of rice and kimchi made the stew a hearty meal on a frigid winter day.

A better bi bim bab (\$9.99)—more generous, with a greater variety of vegetables and more flavorful, tender chicken—is to be had at the west side **Bell's Diner**. Another Korean-owned storefront, this long-time restaurant's huge menu lists inexpensive diner breakfasts (\$2.99–\$8.99) and lunch favorites (\$3.99–\$8.99), along with homeland specialties. One of the cheapest diner options—but also, perhaps, an intemperate, if filling, indulgence—is the fried egg sandwich embellished with cheese and pork, presented on a Frisbee-sized disc of hash browns (\$4.99).

Down the street from Bell's is **Zingerman's Roadshow**, the trailer sitting alongside the Roadhouse. Its take-out menu features sandwiches not available inside the restaurant or deli—Zingerman's food at an affordable price. A pit-smoked chicken salad baguette (\$6.99) was overstuffed and fresh, if in desperate need of salt. A better sandwich utilized the same chicken salad, augmented with roasted green chiles and Swiss, on grilled Roadhouse bread (\$7.99). Really delicious were a vegetarian baguette with roasted tomato tapenade, Creamery goat cheese, and spinach (\$6.75), and a Wednesday-only open-face hot meatloaf sandwich (\$7.99), even if it could have used more gravy.

For overfilled Zingerman's Deli-type sandwiches at significantly lower cost, head east to the Carpenter Rd. outlet of the **Bread Basket Deli**, a southeast Michigan chain (sandwiches \$6.99–\$16.49). Although the bread isn't as good, and the sandwich varieties are fewer, much of Bread Basket's meat comes from the same sources as Zingerman's—Sy Ginsberg's United Meat Deli in Detroit and Nueske's in Wisconsin. Moreover, they offer the option of three filling weights—six or nine ounces or, for U-M linebackers, one pound. I leave it for you to decide how many meals any one of those sandwiches might provide you.

If your lunch preference requires culinary variety served with a few vegetables, proceed to the Village Centre on Oak Valley Dr. The Korean restaurant **Arirang** has a wonderful list of week-day lunch boxes—divided wooden trays cradling your choice of entrée, a meat dumpling, some vegetable tempura, *jop chae* noodles, a tiny salad and rice (\$8.95–\$10.95). Unless you avoid chiles, skip the pedestrian katsu (breaded chicken or pork cutlets) and opt for one of the spicier dishes.

Perhaps the most elegant midday option I discovered, though, was at the neighboring **Godaiko** Japanese restaurant, not usually considered an inexpensive establishment. At lunch time, sitting on the hostess station as you enter, are four display dishes—the kitchen's daily *prix fixe*

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BAKER'S CORNER

by Jessie Seaver

I love sweet potatoes, which is why I pushed to have them as this month's featured ingredient. Sweet or savory, I have yet to find a dish I don't enjoy.

Recently I read about a traditional Mexican dessert, camotes enmielados (candied sweet potatoes), that I can't wait to try at the restaurant. This dish is often found in markets and is also sold by street vendors—picture an ice-cream truck dispensing sweet potatoes!

Preparation:

1. Place 2 whole large sweet potatoes in a sauce pan, add 8 ounces of piloncillo or brown sugar, 1 cinnamon stick, and 1 cup of water.

2. Cover and cook on medium-high heat for 25-30 minutes or until the sweet potatoes are tender. To check for doneness pierce with a fork. They should be tender on the outside but firm in the middle.

3. Cut the sweet potatoes in half and serve covered with the thickened cooking syrup.

*Quick Baker's Tip: Puree cooked sweet potatoes and use in place of half the fat (butter) in cake recipes

CHEF'S TABLE

by Harriet Seaver

Native to its tropical areas, and a large part of the Mayan diet, Mexico produces several varieties of sweet potatoes – yellow, white, and purple. They also grow true yams, which are somewhat sweeter than the North American-raised sweet potato. Nonetheless, they can all be enjoyed in any recipe.

We have incorporated sweet potatoes in our menu in a number of ways. The chipotle sweet potato empanada has been a staple since its introduction. We like to mix it in

with diced butternut squash and greens and roast it for a side dish.

We're also looking at new ways of using sweet potatoes in house-made chips, soup (diced and subbed for carrots), even cookies, not to mention pie. Think candied sweet potato slices with cinnamon-marshmallow cream – or sweet potato flan.

I don't think you can go wrong from appetizer to dessert, sweet or savory, spicy or not, and with their high beta carotene content it's all good for you too!

SALSAS & SAUCES

by Tim Seaver

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FATHER TEQUILA

by Jeremy Seaver

February is a time when we all need assurances that summer will eventually return, that we will be able to go outside for more than a few minutes, and that the sun does still exist. What better way to fortify ourselves against the last bitter attacks of winter than with a spirit that embodies warm weather and sunshine? For that purpose I am reaching for one of my true favorites: Corralejo Reposado. I could tell you about its floral nose with hints of lavender, or the touch of ripe pear that accompanies its spicy, citrusy flavor.

But that can sound pretentious, so I'm not going to do that. Instead, I'm just going to say, when you think you can't take another minute of winter, reach for this tequila – or better yet, come down and join me for one. Salud!



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Restaurant Reviews

meal (\$10.95). After Christmas, feeling a bit chintzy but oversatiated after days of holiday feasting, my husband and I decided to split one special. Even if we were starving, that day's four courses would have satisfied us; sent out together, we delighted in fish ball soup with a deeply flavored beef broth, light and crispy chicken tempura, delicate tuna roll, and minced salmon and julienned vegetables sautéed and mounded atop rice. At \$5.50 a person for a lunch like that, I'd found a clear successor to my tamale standard.

—Lee Lawrence

Detroit Vegan Soul

Bright spot in the city

With so many restaurants in Ann Arbor, you don't have to leave town for good meals of most varieties. But if you seek a change of urban scenery as days get longer, there's an unusual new option near Detroit's Indian Village worth considering.

Turning north off Jefferson Ave. just past the bridge to Belle Isle and meandering toward Detroit Vegan Soul on Agnes St., you pass the burned-out homes now heartbreakingly iconic in Detroit. But once there, you'll find a relaxing, airy setting, with varnished wood floors and big windows looking out on a colorful flower mural across the street.

The restaurant's motto is "soul food made from whole food," and its logo boasts of its lack of preservatives and organic ingredients. Potentially preachy? Sure, but what matters is the food—and DVS (as it calls itself) absolutely aces vegan adaptations of several southern barbecue favorites. The chopped collard greens have a smoky intensity without ever having encountered pork. Stick-to-your-ribs density and fork-shoveling flavor prevail in hearty sides like black-eyed peas, redskin mashed potatoes, and candied yams that are aromatically sweet without being syrupy.

Real maple is the only syrup served with brunch stacks of sweet potato pancakes and crispy waffles. The barbecue sauce at DVS is so sticky sweet and flavorful you might not care that tofu is the only vehicle it adorns in lovely whole-grain sandwiches with coleslaw, or one of the quartet of Sunday dinners. We also enjoyed platters of tempeh smothered in mushroom gravy and seitan-based pepper steak that is juicy and meat-like for a vegan protein—lots of onions in the sauce helped intensify the flavor.

Among the sandwiches and dinners is something called "catfish" tofu. Curious to learn how soybean curd could pass as fish, I ordered it, and was served tidy little fried triangles, appro-

priately battered in cornmeal. They don't taste like fish, but they do conjure up the fish-fry experience, complete with a dill "tartar" sauce for dipping. Somehow it works, especially if you spritz the crispy brown wedges with a slice of lemon. Try them with a side of bright green and garlicky steamed spinach or a starter of collard spring rolls with sweet chili sauce.

DVS doesn't nail mac and cheese—it has a pastiness that just doesn't feel like the real thing (if there's a vegan version anywhere as creamy and tantalizing as the dairy original, I have yet to find it). Cheese grits also suffered from a lack of cheesiness, and I found the cornbread muffins pedestrian. A lightly glazed lemon pound cake was a delightful baked dessert, though, and the vanilla frosting on the cupcakes was tasty and not cloying. Specials listed on the blackboard for other days sounded interesting as well, like lasagna, jambalaya, and apple sage stuffing.

A friend was pleasantly surprised by most everything she sampled at DVS. Too often, she finds vegan dishes "either too salty or too sweet, probably in an effort to make up for the lack of fat." DVS masters the art of flavor without too much salt, sugar, or oils.

DVS (as it calls itself) absolutely aces vegan adaptations of several southern barbecue favorites.

The biggest issues we had here were about drinks, not food. Three smoothies, slightly pricey at \$7 each, were all served at room temperature without any icy coolness. That made the berry and choco-banana ver-

sions less refreshing than expected. The "Green Life," made with spinach, kale, avocado, fruit, and almond milk, had a velvety consistency, but was more a meal in a glass than a beverage. If that's your thing, DVS will bulk up your smoothie further with flax, maca, spirulina, hemp, or ginger at a buck per. I'll probably just quash my thirst next time with house-made lemonade, sweet tea, or hibiscus punch.

A final complaint has to do with service. More than once, silverware arrived after our meals were served, and requests for food substitutions, pushing tables together, or ordering from the lunch menu at brunch were met with a polite but unwavering "No."


In DVS's defense, it's a busy restaurant with a labor-intensive menu. Just be sure to call ahead if you're arriving with a large group, and leave time to enjoy the quality behind the slow food concept.

—M.B. Lewis

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Marketplace Changes

by Sally Mitani

Briarwood Steps Up Its Game

The big mall chases downtown with a pair of white-tablecloth restaurants.

Briarwood is blooming with offshoots. Side by side, Bravo! Cucina Italiana and P.F. Chang's China Bistro opened in December in what had been a parking lot just east of Macy's. While not the very tippy top of fine dining, these chain eateries are the fanciest restaurants Briarwood has ever seen, with white tablecloths and entrées clustered around the \$20 mark.

It seems to indicate that Briarwood is stepping up its game, but to take on whom? Since a similar, though more down-market, restaurant development is eating up parking at the nearby Meijer, it was tempting to theorize that it might relate to the introduction of Costco into the local ecosystem a few years ago. Briarwood used to be the star attraction in the area. Now, Costco is just as likely to be the main draw, but there's one thing Costco doesn't have and that's a nice place to eat.

That suggestion is firmly deflected by Denise Murray, Briarwood's marketing director. The new competition and the new restaurants are "two completely independent situations," she says. "The land was always plotted to have two restaurants there." Murray says that mall developer Al Taubman's original plans also allow for similar add-ons to Briarwood's other anchor stores, though she won't say if there are specific plans in progress.

The anchor stores all own their own buildings plus some adjacent parking. In this case, Macy's sold some of its parking lot back to Briarwood to lease to the restaurants. That fits with an ongoing cost-cutting program at the fashion retailer, which has apparently decided that it can make do with less parking in exchange for some cash and lively new neighbors.

Downtown's restaurants, of course, brought the city back to life after mall-based chains killed its traditional retail base. Bravo and P.F. Chang occupy a middle ground between those worlds. While working the same mid-priced sit-down segment as Ann Arbor's independent eateries, both are part of large chains that specialize in mall locations, typically flanking entrances to big anchor stores.

Marketing director Denise Murray says the mall's original plans also allow for similar add-ons to Briarwood's other anchor stores, though she won't say if there are specific plans in progress.



J. ADRIAN WYLLIE

Bravo and P.F. Chang's bring a monumental presence to what used to be Macy's parking lot. (If our Macy's was a Nordstrom's, we'd see a pricier Brio.)

The Ohio-based Bravo Brio Restaurant Group runs two Italian restaurant chains. **Bravo! Cucina Italiana**, says manager William Kirby, is the southern Italian one, while Brio Tuscan Grille is northern Italian. (Brio is also slightly more expensive. As CFO Jim O'Connor put it, frankly and succinctly, in the *Columbus Dispatch*, "If you see a Nordstrom's, you're likely to see a Brio. If you see a Macy's, you're more likely to see a Bravo.")

Kirby, originally from Grass Lake, is an Air Force vet who started out as a server in the Lansing Bravo after the first Gulf War. "I was a little older than most of the servers, so I got promoted up," and up. He's trained servers at twenty-three Bravos around the country and could have managed one of his own before now but held out for one in the area. "This company is awesome about promoting within the company. If you're interested, they'll make it happen," he says. He's equally enthusiastic about the location. "We love big restaurants opening around us. People walk back and forth between here and P.F. Chang's checking the wait time. Macy's and [nearby] California Pizza Kitchen say they have not had sales like this in years."

As for the food: "Pasta is selling big time here—obviously. But people miss out on the awesome pork chops that are marinated twenty-four hours. I would compare the steak to Ruth's Chris," the upmarket steakhouse chain, which is opening a location in the old Dream Nite Club on S. Fourth downtown.

The corporate website oddly describes Bravo's ambiance as "classic Italian food in a Roman-ruin decor," but actually everything is quite new and clean. Probably the website meant national-monument-size décor: the light fixtures are the size of bathtubs.

Arizona-based **P.F. Chang's China Bistro** has more than 200 locations around the country. The company is more reticent than Bravo Brio about engaging with the press—permission for the local manager to do an interview never came through.

Visually, Chang's is even more striking than Bravo: its entrance is guarded by eleven-foot-tall horses, and inside there are life-size replicas of the famous Xian terra cotta warriors. A lot of the menu is familiar-sounding Chinese takeout staples, amplified by a few dollars, but it also dabbles in fusion, like the \$24.95 oolong Chilean sea bass. The French-accented "beef à la Sichuan" costs \$14.95.

Bravo! Cucina Italiana, 760 Briarwood Cir. 747-6200. Mon.-Thurs. 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m., Sun. 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m. www.bravoitalian.com

P.F. Chang's China Bistro, 720 Briarwood Cir., 780-3900. Sun.-Thurs. 11 a.m.-10 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m.-11 p.m. www.pfchang.com

Paredown Opens an Annex

Furniture in the neighborhood

As downtown and campus retailers are talking doomsday, squeezed between high rents and online competition (see, for example, the closing of Dancing Dog Gallery, below), an interesting counterpoint is the number of businesses moving into neighborhoods and buildings off the main retail corridors.

Annex of paredown is the latest example. Next to the Party Center convenience store at the Jackson/Dexter divide, Brenda Brown has created what looks like a very pretty living room stuffed with mid-century collectible pottery and Depression glass, along with some new kitchenware and utensils. "The moniker is 'new and vintage home furnishings and fabrics,'" Brown says.

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Marketplace Changes



J. ADRIAN WYLLIE

Brenda Brown found part of her inventory helping other people downsize and organize, the rest from a lifelong habit of haunting estate sales.

Though her merchandise ranges from furniture and handmade couture to lemon squeezers, a good bit of it clusters around what she calls the "hostess gift" range—around \$20. The walls are draped with upholstery fabric remnants; they're for sale, but she also turns them into things. Her sewing machine and a tiny sewing studio occupy the back.

"Most recently, my thing is coats made of upholstery fabric," she says. "I've always had an interest in fabrics, sewing, and upholstery—a little bit for money, but mostly for passion. In years past I've done bridal dresses and skating and dance costumes." Three of her handmade coats are currently on display: a thigh-length bouclé in a Chanel-like design, a fleecy-looking number that is made from a vintage Fieldcrest blanket, and what she calls "a basic duster," though made from sumptuous brocade. All are lined so flawlessly they look reversible.

Brown, a petite and chic woman, moves with the sort of purpose and confidence that suggests a French accent might come out of her mouth, but she's a Midwesterner and "an old hippie. My first house was in Ypsi—I dyed burlap and made curtains for it." She worked in the book production industry for years, but several years ago started a business called paredown: "I help people downsize and organize, so they can move or rework their spaces, maybe carving out a rental space."

She's accrued a lot of the Annex's inventory by helping customers pare down theirs, and the rest from a lifelong habit of haunting estate sales. "With the furniture, I'm trying to appeal to the size and style of homes in the neighborhood," she says, pointing out a couple of upholstered occasional chairs and a set of pristine mid-century vinyl dining chairs. Her latest project is in the center of the shop: an old paint-crusted butcher-block workbench. "I think it would make a good kitchen island. I'm thinking of stripping the top but leaving the sides as is."

Annex of paredown, 1608 Jackson Ave., 834-9024. Wed. 2-7 p.m., Thurs. & Fri. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Closed Sun.-Tues. annexofparedown.com.

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Coffee Klatch

A flurry of changes on the caffeine scene

With so many coffee shops in Ann Arbor, one is almost always opening or closing, but in the last few months, the changes came thick and fast. Are they symptomatic of some broader theme?

David Myers, owner of the local Mighty Good roastery attached to his large Main St. café, adopted the former Glassbox Coffee on campus, renaming it **Mighty Good**. He says he may open another too, but at press time it wasn't official. He says business is good for indie roasters like himself: "There are forty-plus coffee roasters in Portland. Independent coffee shops now outnumber chains in New York City."

He stresses that the recent closing of **Peet's** (formerly Caribou) on E. Stadium isn't directly related to the flurry of changes in local cafés—it's fallout from the 2012 purchase of Caribou and Peet's by German corporate giant JAB Holding Company. But, he adds, "I looked at that location, and I wouldn't have picked it."

Does that mean that perhaps locally owned coffee shops are better location pickers? "Hmmm, not sure I'd say that. Starbucks has great locations." Still, he adds, right now, people are infatuated with their local brands. "People want to buy from small local roasters, and they want it to be their own local roaster. Not some artisanal roaster out in, say, Denver or something."

Another very local coffee business, though he doesn't roast his own, is **The Espresso Bar**, which just opened over Literati books downtown. Sandy Bledsoe opened three years ago in Braun Court, where he used to punctuate it differently, calling it [the espresso bar], because it was an informal business wedged into the off-hours of the actual, liquor-licensed Bar at 327 Braun Ct. With that confusion cleared up, he's ditched the brackets and switched to title case.

The Espresso Bar is intertwined with Literati—it's open when Literati is open, functions as Literati's events space, and Literati's children's book section is even integrated into a portion of the coffee shop space. Bledsoe seems surprised when asked if having small children and books in such close proximity to hot coffee and sticky sweets ever causes a problem. "If you ever want to feel good about humanity, find some kids who love books," he says. "No, it hasn't been a problem."

Bledsoe (who is sole owner of the business now—his original partner Anna Foster moved to Chicago) says his place is unique among local coffee shops in that customers don't pay until they leave. Bledsoe takes orders at the counter, but servers

deliver coffee to tables along with a glass of water. You pay on your way out. "Our thinking from the very beginning was if you haven't had it yet, why should you pay for it?"

His friend and landlord Hilary Gustafson joins him for a minute (she and husband Mike own Literati and recruited him to share their new second-floor space). They try to decide whether they see a theme in the recent openings and closings. "People like to buy local. Both coffee and books are easy, definite ways people can buy local," Hilary says. "There are things you can choose purposefully because you support the business model. And Sandy is so careful about everything he does."

The Espresso Bar, 124 E. Washington, 707-1327. Mon.-Thurs. 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. haveanicecoffeetime.com

And **Great Lakes Chocolate & Coffee Co.** on Jackson closed. This was the last existing franchise of a small regional chain that still has three company stores. Christine Eleby opened the store as an employee in 2007 and bought it in 2011.

Eleby says the immediate cause was the severe one-two punch she was dealt by last year's freakishly bad winter followed by endless road construction. "It was rough on a lot of businesses," she says. "With that kind of snow and cold, people don't want to run extra errands." When the winter stopped, the road construction started. "It ended in November, but it was too late. We haven't seen a real pickup. People get into a new routine."

Even before the double whammy, things weren't going particularly well. "I think Ann Arbor is an interesting coffee environment," Eleby says thoughtfully. "People tend to either go mainstream—Starbucks, Biggby—or with the local little guys that have a niche market. We're in the middle. The city is big enough to offer a lot of competition, and, being a franchise, I didn't really have the freedom to make many changes."

She says that her employees are fortunate to have found jobs elsewhere. "Laurie Vaquero, the district manager at Sweetwaters, reached out to us, and three of my employees will be going to work there." Only Eleby is jobless. She says from now on she'll probably buy her coffee from Natalie at the Creamery down the street or at Mighty Good: "Dave is awesome."

Briefly noted

Salads UP is the brainchild of two recent Michigan grads, Max Steir (business) and Robert Mayer (history and econ), who met as roommates on North Campus. Mayer says, "We saw an opening here for something like this. We took plenty of

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February 2015

Printed in Ann Arbor

Land of a thousand flavors

Bread of the Month

Sourdough round

\$4.50/each (reg. \$6.29/each)

Crisp, crackly crust, moist honey-combed interior and the trademark sour tang that will tickle your tongue. This bread is good enough to ship back to California!

Roaster's Pick Coffee mexico - chiapas

Zingerman's Coffee Company loves coffees from the state of Chiapas. They are well-balanced, rich, and naturally sweet. This single-origin lot boasts cocoa and honey notes.

Cheese of the Month the bridgewater

A robust, soft-ripened cow's milk cheese, this is one of the Creamery's most popular, loved for its versatility. Powerfully good on cheese boards - try it for your next gathering!

Round \$9.99/ea (reg. \$11.99/ea)

Log \$21.99/ea (reg. \$24.99/ea)



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www.Zingermans.com



special from times society pages: zingerman's wedding show the event of the season!



Saturday, Feb 21, 1-5pm at Cornman Farms \$10 advance/\$15 at the door

DEXTER, MI - Area brides are finding out all of the ways Zingerman's can help them create the wedding of their dreams with this special event at Zingerman's Cornman Farms. Featuring full-flavored samples and the opportunity to meet favorite local vendors, this wedding show also highlights the extra special touches and amenities that make Cornman Farms a unique venue for the Big Day. From imagination-defying wedding cakes (that taste as good as they look!) from the Bakehouse and handmade party favor confections from the Candy Manufactory, to catering options from the Roadhouse, Delicatessen and San Street, Zingerman's Wedding Show is the one-stop shop for wedding planners.



Limited spots are available.

Register now at www.zingermanscommunity.com
First 20 to sign up receive a complimentary gift!

Featured Vendors

Zingerman's Roadhouse	Zingerman's Candy Manufactory
Zingerman's Bakehouse	Zingerman's Mail Order
Zingerman's Creamery	San Street Catering
Zingerman's Coffee Co.	Lola Grace Photography
The Gown Shop Ann Arbor	Who's Got the Time?
BS Design	Chelsea Brown
Drop Dead Gorgeous	Photography
The Lighting Guy	LuFru Entertainment
Shutterbooth	Pot & Box
Little Guy Wine Company	Kerby's Kurb Service
Zingerman's Catering & Events	

Book your 2015 wedding at Cornman Farms by February 28 and receive 2014 pricing!

According to Leading Mathematicians: Rum + Chocolate = Great Valentine's Date!

Rum and Chocolate Cocktail Hour

Fri., Feb. 13th, Two Seatings: 6-7pm & 8-9pm • \$35/person

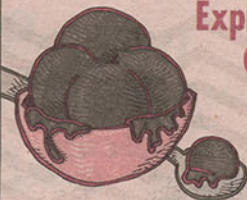
At Zingerman's Events on Fourth, 415 N. Fifth Ave.

Math experts have discovered the equation for a Happy Valentine's Day involves tasting 3 hand-selected rums, plus one special rum concoction, add chocolate pairings, and multiply by two. The result is a special cocktail hour date for sweethearts!



Space is limited! Reserve now at zingermanscommunity.com

Explosion of Chocolate Gelato Flavors Fill Local Freezers!



Gelato-maker Josh Miner from Zingerman's Creamery finally went off the deep end

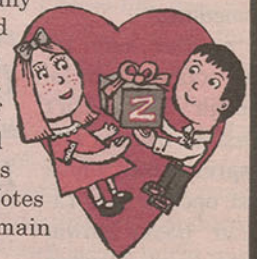
with his wildest assortment of chocolate-inspired treats yet, some of them available ONLY in February.

Joining the regular line-up of chocolate flavors (which includes a **Dark Chocolate gelato, rated Best in Michigan** by *Detroit Metro Times*) are Josh's Rocky Ride featuring marshmallows handmade at Zingerman's Candy Manufactory and butter-roasted Virginia peanuts; the now classic Chocolate Balsamic Strawberry; Turtle (with dulce de leche and butter-roasted Georgia pecans); Cherry Chocolate Chip Sorbet (made with Traverse City cherries and housemade chocolate chips); and Stone Ground and Smoked, featuring smoked almonds and smoked chocolate from Peppalo Chocolate in Tecumseh, MI. Available at Zingerman's Creamery and Delicatessen!

Ship a 6-pack to your gelato-deprived friends all over the country! www.zingermans.com

Recommendations from Times' Guide to Romance Causing a Buzz on the Southside

Relationship gurus report there is something for everyone's coffee (or tea!)-loving sweeties at Zingerman's Coffee Company this Valentine's Day, from secret admirers and BFFs to forgetful spouses and thoughtful partners. Featured is a special blend of coffee created just for the occasion: The Kama-Sumatran consists of a blend of coffees from Sumatra, Colombia and Kenya. It was created exclusively for Valentine's Day and is being previewed for the first time. Notes of "dirty" and "sweet" are reported as the main flavor notes. Ask for a taste!



I Like You a Latte

A Zingerman's Gift Card in a special coffee-themed Valentine's greeting card plus a 12 oz. bag of our special Valentine's blend, Kama Sumatran.

Be My Sweet Tea

Rishi tea with a Simple Brew tea pot (our favorite way to brew a great cup of tea).

I've got a Peanut Butter Crush on You

A 12 oz. bag of our special Valentine's blend, Kama Sumatran, plus a box of Peanut Butter Crush Chocolates from Zingerman's Candy Manufactory and a Valentine's greeting all packaged up in a special gift bag.

I've Got Chocolotta Love for You

A Zingerman's travel mug (the BEST travel mug we've ever found), 2 artisan chocolate bars, a 12 oz. bag of our Kama Sumatran coffee and a Valentine's greeting all packaged up in our cartoon gift box.

Words Can Not Express How Much You Mean to Me

A Zingerman's travel mug, 2 artisan chocolate bars, a 12 oz. bag of our Kama Sumatran coffee and a gift certificate to one of our awesome coffee classes with a Valentine's greeting all packaged up in a handmade jute bag.

Exclusively at Zingerman's Coffee Company, 3723 Plaza Dr.

Marketplace Changes

time doing due diligence. Neither one of us had any restaurant experience, so that's why it took so long."

Took so long? They just graduated in 2013, and they put a restaurant where no restaurant has ever been. The small free-standing building has been an office space since 4 Seasons Perfume departed in 2010. "We put in the smallest commercial kitchen possible," Mayer says, which left room for thirty-two seats and the long assembly line where you watch salad being made.

It's a relatively simple concept: salads, plus a few other things—soup, some fresh cold-pressed juices (basically salads in a blender), or salad stuffed into a wrap. However, manager Nicholas Simmons points out, salads are pretty flexible: they can be loaded with meats, cheeses, and nuts to the point where they stretch the definition of salad, or they can be lean and green. Invent your own, or choose one of their suggested recipes. They're not premade, Simmons stresses, but they are quicker to make because "there's no back-and-forth conversation with the customer."

Simmons says that while the serving ware is plastic, it's biodegradable. And a lot of the restaurant's interior "is made out of the Solway house. You guys wrote about it" in May 2014. Architectural Salvage Warehouse supplied these particular remains, though many others got a share of the house on Spring St. that Gail Solway bought and carefully dismantled.

Salads UP, 611 E. Liberty. 368-9385. Mon.-Fri. 10:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. saladup.com

"It just wasn't meant to be," says Lisa Weiss sympathetically of the very short-lived restaurant called **El Ranchito** at Stone Plaza at the corner of Stone School Rd. and Ellsworth. "But you know what?" adds Weiss, the plaza's assistant property manager. "There's something pretty exciting going in there."

The exciting development is a second location for **Taco King**—and the news that owner Saber Naghmouchi is scouting for a third in Plymouth. "We figure we have to have about three or four stores of our own, to get our name out there," says Naghmouchi, who with his wife, Sihem Ben Aich, opened Taco King a few years ago as a window inside their Mexican market, Tienda La Libertad. "And then, we're going to franchise. That was the plan from the beginning."

Taco King has raised its prices, slightly—Naghmouchi shrugs. "I can't help it. The price of food went up." Tacos are still pretty affordable, though: they start at \$2.25, and the menu has grown considerably in complexity, offering burritos, enchiladas, tortas, nachos, and tamales. Naghmouchi says the southside Taco King should open for business "first week in February."

Taco King, 4079 Stone School. No phone at press time. Daily 9 a.m.-10 p.m. tacokingannarbor.com

In the Works

"We'll be cleaning up, doing some renovations, and will open in the spring," says Robert Mechigian, who with partner Scott Meterko bought the assets of **Nicholson's** motorcycles.

Nicholson's sold mainly Japanese motorcycles ("metrics," Mechigian calls them). While the new store will continue to carry Kawasaki, Honda, and Yamaha cycles, it will also sell snowmobiles, quads, side-by-sides, ATVs, ORVs, and some watercraft. "We may keep the Nicholson's name in Ann Arbor or may change it to something totally different," says Mechigian; he and Meterko also own Bright Power Sports in Lincoln Park.

More next month on the nearly simultaneous expansions of two vegan-loving enterprises. Phillis Engelbert and Joel Panozzo will open a second **Lunch Room** in Huron Towers in February; and Swaroop and Sumi Bhojani, owners of **Hut K Chaats**, took on partner Pradeep Chowdhry, bought **Jazzy Veggie** on Main, and are planning a grand reopening as **Back-2Roots Bistro** (Hut K Chaats on Packard will remain unchanged).

Closings

Bill Knudstrup, a painter and one of five remaining partners of the **Dancing Dog Gallery**, talked regretfully about its closing. Just a year and a half ago it seemed a suitably art-focused repurposing of the old Herb David Guitar Studio, but Knudstrup says it just didn't generate enough income to pay the high cost of doing business downtown. The three partners who have dropped out did so not because of any internal turmoil, but due to separate life events, and Knudstrup says "each time someone left, it was more work for the remaining partners and was harder to come up with the rent."

Knudstrup says he's looking forward to having more time for his own work: "I'll probably start looking for some gallery representation myself. The work I've done has been good, and it was good knowing it would be out in public, but I haven't had the amount of time in the studio I used to have. I usually do thirty to fifty paintings a year, and this past year was half that."

Vellum opened two years ago with big-city sophistication, small-city prices, and a lot of drama backstage. A former employee recalls rushing a *sous vide* machine—a super-slow cooker that's a favorite of molecular gastronomes, but lacked a required variance—from room to room ahead of restaurant inspectors (it was finally caught and evicted). In its short life, Vellum retooled its menu, lost key staff, lost its star chef Peter Roumanis (son of owner John Roumanis), retooled the menu again, added a humbler "Grill" to its name, and finally closed in January.

Got a retail or restaurant change? Email sallymitani@gmail.com or leave voicemail at (734) 769-3175 x 309.

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Music at Nightspots

by John Hinchey

Listings are based on information available at press time. Up-to-date schedules are posted at AnnArborObserver.com, but it may be advisable to call ahead. Times are noted only if they differ from the default showtimes listed in the description of each club.

The Alley

2830 Baker Rd., Dexter 426-4707

This bar and grill (until recently known as Katie's Food & Spirits) features live music Fri. & Sat. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., and occasional other nights. Also, DJ on Wed. 8-10 p.m. and karaoke on Tues. & Thurs. 9 p.m.-1:30 a.m. No cover, dancing. February schedule TBA.

The Arena

203 E. Washington 222-9999

This downtown sports bar features live music Mon. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Mon.: Laith Al-Saadi Trio.** An eclectic mix of roots Americana, classic rock, and blues, including many originals, by a jazz-tinged, jam-oriented trio led by local singer-guitarist Al-Saadi. With drummer Rob Avsharian and bassist Jordan Schug.

The Ark

316 S. Main 761-1451

Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional and roots music and contemporary songwriting. Shows almost every night at 8 p.m., Mon.-Sat., & 7:30 p.m., Sun. Unless otherwise noted, tickets are sold in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office (mutotix.com) and theark.org, and at the door. **Feb. 4: Kathy Mattea.** This veteran folk-country singer and 2-time Grammy winner returns to town after a 10-year absence. Mattea sings in a low, luminous, richly shaded voice that she uses to create emotional landscapes that are at once down-to-earth and deeply evocative. Her uncommonly sharp eye for good songs was showcased in her 2008 CD, *Coal*, a collection rooted in her own heritage as the descendant of a long line of coal miners that featured songs by an array of stellar country-folk songwriters, including Jean Ritchie, Billy Edd Wheeler, Hazel Dickens, Si Kahn, Utah Phillips, Merle Travis, and Darrell Scott. \$35. **Feb. 5: Frank Vignola & Vinny Raniolo.** Acoustic jazz duo led by this renowned guitar virtuoso whose music blends gypsy jazz with rock, swing, blues, and bluegrass flavors. \$20. **Feb. 6: Mountain Heart.** Winner of the 1999 International Bluegrass Association Emerging Artist of the Year Award, this bluegrass ensemble blends traditional and progressive styles. Its 2005 CD, *The Journey*, is a collection of traditional southern gospel tunes, and its 2006 CD, *Wide Open*, blends originals with songs by well-known country and bluegrass songwriters. The band's 2010 CD, *Road That Never Ends*, was recorded live at the Ark. \$35. **Feb. 7: Willie Nile.** Veteran rock 'n' roll singer-songwriter whom *Uncut* dubbed "a one-man Clash" and whose fans include Lucinda Williams, Bono, the late Lou Reed, and filmmaker Jim Jarmusch. The music on his new CD, *American Ride*, ranges from anthemic rock 'n' roll swagger to romantic balladry and blues-based rockabilly. \$20. **Feb. 8: Garnet Rogers.** Veteran Canadian folkie known for his resonant baritone and poetic, emotionally potent originals that the *Kitchener Record* calls "visionary songs of haunting and mysterious power," accompanies himself on guitar, fiddle, flute, and synthesizer. He recently released *Summer's End*, his 1st collection of original songs in a decade. \$20. **Feb. 9: "Somebody Told Me: A Night of Songs & Stories."** In-the-round songs and stories by the young California folk-rock singer-songwriter Brett Denen, songwriter Andrew McMahon of Jack's Mannequin, alt-pop singer-songwriter (and former Toad the Wet Sprocket frontman) Glen Phillips, and Seattle jazz-inflected pop-folk songwriter Jonathan Kingham. Proceeds benefit 3 nonprofits that serve children with cancer or other chronic and life-threatening diseases, North Star Reach in Pinckney, the Dear Jack Foundation, and Sky High Hope Camp. \$40-\$125. **Feb. 10: Charlie Mars.** Mississippi folk-rock singer-songwriter who makes what the *New York Times* calls "shaky, rhythmically ambitious folk music that's not without its moments of humor." He has a new CD, *The Money*, that *American Songwriter* reviewer Hal Horowitz praises for its "relaxed, easy elegance" and "melodies [that] feel as lived in as the lyrics and linger long after the last note fades." Opening act is **Briar Rabbit**, a Chicago-based pop-

The Understorey

Marriage of musical minds

The Understorey truly is a marriage of music: the band's history began when vocalist Jess McCumons and guitarist Matt McCumons sang together at their wedding. Starting off as a duo in 2011, the McCumonses have since grown the Understorey into a full seven-piece band, with Dave Wak on drums, Billy King on lead guitar, Miles Shultz on keyboards and trombone, Graham Lapp on bass, and Jenny Jones on backup vocals (and doubling as booking agent). Most of the expansion occurred during the recording of its debut album, *Tending Embers*, which came out in June 2013. The couple brought in additional instruments for the recording and liked the effect so well they made the session musicians bandmates.

The expanded band that recently played the Ark to a packed house did not disappoint. The show began with Jess, solo on the grand piano, playing a new song called "Family Stones." It was the perfect introduction to her

powerful, soulful voice. After bringing the rest of the band out, the Understorey ran through most of *Tending Embers* before taking on a pair of covers, the Zutons' "Valerie" and "You're No Good," a song made famous by Linda Ronstadt.

The band is at its best as a precise, tight R&B unit that allows Jess and Jenny to shine. There is little to no soloing, but it's a well-oiled machine that drives the vocals to the forefront—with special force in the band's powerful encore performance of its song "Fat Birdie."

As they have since their wedding-day collaboration, Jess and Matt continue to handle the songwriting duties. They also still play from time to time as a duo, and it's in that form that the McCumonses will appear as part



of the "On the Tracks" songwriter showcase at the Chelsea Depot on Wednesday, February 4 (see Events listing). It's a great opportunity to sample a fantastic local voice in a stripped-down setting, but make sure to catch the full band, too. Jess says the band is working on new material and even exploring a different sound in hopes of releasing an EP sometime in 2015.

—Chris Berggren

folk singer-songwriter (the nephew of B.B. King) with a soulful tenor voice and highly literate, sharp-witted lyrical approach. \$15. **Feb. 11: Occidental Gypsy.** Boston-based quintet whose foot-stomping, rhythmically complex vocal and instrumental originals and covers blend vibrant gypsy swing with elements of world music and contemporary jazz. \$15. **Feb. 12: Saline Fiddlers Philharmonic.** Nationally renowned ensemble of Saline high school students with an energetic, polished stage show whose repertoire includes music, song and dance from the traditions of American folk fiddle, bluegrass, jazz, Western swing, and Celtic music. \$15. **Feb. 13: John McCutcheon.** A big favorite with local audiences, McCutcheon is a hammered-dulcimer virtuoso whose repertoire features all forms of Appalachian music, from Sacred Harp songs and traditional ballads to buoyant hoedowns, contemporary songs, and originals, including a series of labor union songs for kids. Called by *Frets* magazine "the most versatile and energetic figure in the American traditional revival," McCutcheon also plays guitar, banjo, fiddle, and autoharp, and he's a witty, charming performer. \$20. **Feb. 14: "BreakFEST 2015."** A benefit for the St. Andrew's Episcopal Church breakfast program for the homeless. Headliners are **Luke Winslow King**, a Cadillac-bred, New Orleans-based Americana singer-songwriter and guitarist who specializes in a style of prewar pop music steeped in blues and jazz, and **Clarence Bucaro**, a NYC-based Americana singer-songwriter whose music the *New York Times* describes as "cozy songs that hark back to the late 1960s Van Morrison." Opening acts are the MSU a cappella show choir **State of Fifths** and the up-and-coming Detroit-area singer-songwriter **Mia Green**. \$30. **Feb. 15: Jeremy Kittel Band.** Kittel is a nationally acclaimed fiddle virtuoso from Saline, a U-M music school jazz grad who recently completed a 5-year stint with the Turtle Island String Quartet. His extremely eclectic repertoire ranges from Scottish, Irish, and Cape Breton fiddle tunes to jazz, bluegrass, traditional Appalachian tunes, and originals that draw on all these genres. *Folk World* writer Alex Monaghan described his 2010 CD *Chasing Sparks* as "over an hour of fiddle music, from the devilish to the divine, played by a consummate musician whose style and repertoire sit somewhere between Nashville and Naim." His new trio includes mandolin virtuoso Joshua Pinkham and the renowned Canadian Celtic guitarist Quinn Bachard. \$17.50. **Feb. 16: Hey Rosetta!** Indie-rock septet from Newfoundland known for the massive, layered sound it generates by adding piano, violin, and cello to the standard rock quartet. "With their buoyant songs and soaring anthems, Hey Rosetta! come across as a less fussy, less histrionic Arcade Fire," says *Rolling Stone* (Australia) critic Rod Yates in his review of the band's new CD *Second Sight*, which has just been released in the U.S. \$15.

Feb. 17: Ladysmith Black Mambazo. SOLD OUT. \$45. **Feb. 18: Sister Sparrow & the Dirty Birds.** A blend of gritty, seductive soul and raucous, down-and-dirty blues-rock by this 9-piece NYC band led by Arleigh Kincheloe, a powerhouse vocalist with a sly, commanding stage presence. \$15. **Feb. 19: Scythian.** Young Washington, D.C., quartet that plays Celtic-inspired original music in infectious high-energy arrangements that incorporate a rock 'n' roll spirit and an array of stylistic influences from classical to East European and Middle Eastern music. "With only a thirty-to-forty-minute framework, Scythian took the sedate Monday night crowd aback from the start with a fierce twin fiddle instrumental and rarely let up on the intensity after that with polka and gypsy songs thrown in among the more obviously Irish-inspired tunes," says *Music That Matters* critic Kevin Oliver in a review of one of the band's live shows. "By set's end the crowd was on their feet, clapping in rhythm and even stomping their feet, chairs forgotten for the moment." \$20. **Feb. 20: Cheryl Wheeler.** This versatile veteran singer-songwriter is known for her hauntingly pure voice, biting sense of humor, and alternately poignant and whimsical songs about human relationships and everyday life. Her songs have been recorded by the likes of Suzy Bogguss, Nanci Griffith, Maura O'Connell, and Bette Midler, and her latest CD, *Cheryl Wheeler Live*, features a rich musical blend of folk, country, rock, and pop influences. \$25. **Feb. 22: David Bromberg Quintet.** Performance by this veteran folkie who emerged from semiretirement in 2009 and released his first recording in 17 years, the acclaimed *Try Me One More Time*. Bromberg is a brilliant entertainer whose style draws on blues, country, early jazz, and even classical music, and his repertoire includes offbeat, often wryly ironic originals and highly personal interpretations of traditional material. \$35. **Feb. 23: Albert Lee.** See review, p. 73. A veteran English electric guitar virtuoso whom Eric Clapton calls "the greatest guitarist in the world," Lee is a master of just about every style of Anglo-American vernacular music, but he is best known for his influence on country guitarists, both from his stints in the bands of Emmylou Harris, Rodney Crowell, and the Everly Brothers and from his own "Country Boy," which helped redefine country guitar. \$25. **Feb. 24: Whistle Stop Revue.** Port Huron acoustic folk-rock string trio whose music draws on a wide range of influences from blues and bluegrass to reggae and jazz. FREE. All encouraged to bring nonperishable food or money to donate to Food Gatherers. **Feb. 25: Open Stage.** All acoustic performers invited. Fifteen acts are selected randomly from those who sign up to perform 8 minutes (or 2 songs) each. The most talented and popular Open Stage performers are offered their own evenings at the Ark. \$3 (members & students, \$2). **Feb. 27:**

Dragon Wagon. Highly regarded local acoustic roots-music sextet that calls its music "bluegrass folk-rock with a touch of Irish whiskey." \$15. **Feb. 28: Dave Alvin & Phil Alvin.** The cofounders of the seminal early-80s L.A. postpunk roots-rock band the Blasters have reunited for the first time in more than 2 decades to collaborate on *Common Ground*, a collection of songs by one of their first inspirations, the pivotal country-turned-urban bluesman Big Bill Broonzy. Their current repertoire includes songs from this CD and other blues and early rock covers, along with some of their Blasters hits. They are backed by Dave's band, **The Guilty Ones**. \$25.

The B-Side

310 E. Washington 214-9995

This all-ages venue in the Neutral Zone teen center (with a side alley entrance off Fifth Ave.) features a mix of touring, local, and teen bands, usually Sat., 7-11 p.m. Cover, dancing. **Feb. 6: The Euphorics.** Local teen quintet whose music blends pop, rock, funk, and hip-hop to create what is called "feelgood sad songs that make you dance." Opening acts are **Creal**, a Skyline High indie pop-rock dance band, and **Caves**, a local electro-acoustic experimental pop-rock quintet that accompanies its music with 3-D animated visual projections.

Bar Louie

401 E. Liberty 794-3000

This downtown tavern features live music Sat. 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m. Also, salsa dancing with a DJ on Wed. & Fri. 10:30 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Feb. 7: Nick & Chris Duo.** Local duo that plays 90s rock covers. **Feb. 14: Von Zippers.** Livonia classic rock quartet. **Feb. 21: TBA.** **Feb. 28: Laith Al-Saadi Trio.** See Arena.

The Black Pearl

302 S. Main 222-0400

This seafood and martini bar features live music Tues. 8-11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Feb. 3: Billy Raffoul.** Canadian pop-rock singer-songwriter and guitarist with a soulful vocal style. **Feb. 10: Laith Al-Saadi.** Soulful acoustic rock and blues covers and originals by this local singer-guitarist. His latest CD, *Real*, a collection of songs drawing on blues, country, gospel, and roots rock, was recorded in L.A. with an all-star cast of session legends, including saxophonist Tom Scott, drummer Jim Keltner, and bassist Leland Sklar. **Feb. 17 & 24: Laith Al-Saadi.** See above.

The Blind Pig

208 S. First St.

996-8555

This local club features live music most Wed.-Sat. and occasional other nights, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. (unless otherwise noted). Also, occasional early shows, usually 7-10 p.m. Cover, dancing. If advance tickets are sold, they are available at the 8 Ball Saloon (below the club) and at etix.com. **Feb. 2: Grizfolk.** Folk-tinged alternative rock by this L.A.-based Swedish quintet. Opening act is **Colin**, a Nashville party-pop quartet. Advance tickets: \$10 (\$12 at the door). **Feb. 4: The Main Squeeze.** Self-styled post-funk by this Chicago-based quintet whose influences range from Stevie Wonder and Jimi Hendrix to Michael Jackson to the funk jam band Lettuce and the Texas-bred nu jazz quintet Snarky Puppy. Advance tickets: \$10. **Feb. 5: Tory Lanez.** Toronto hip-hop MC and R&B singer-songwriter. Advance tickets: \$15. **Feb. 6: TBA.** **Feb. 7: Local H.** Veteran Chicago alternative rock duo. Opening act is **Blue Snaggletooth**, a veteran local psychedelic metal-rock band. **Feb. 11: Giraffage.** Stage name of the San Francisco electronic music DJ/producer whose music includes electronica, dreampop, and lo-fi styles. Advance tickets: \$14. **Feb. 12: TBA.** **Feb. 13: TBA.** **Feb. 14: The Bang!** Dance party with this local DJ collective that plays garage and 70s rock. **Feb. 18: Flamingosis.** The stage name of Aaron Velasquez, a New Jersey experimental electronic hip-hop MC and singer-songwriter. Opening acts are the Philadelphia self-styled mutant-pop electronic musician **Moon Bounce**, the local electronic-pop musician **Jonah Baseball**, and the local electro/hip-hop musician **Flandy**. **Feb. 19: Doomtree.** Veteran sextet of Minneapolis rappers known for fusing punk explosiveness with hip-hop swagger. Opening act is **Open Mike Eagle**, a Chicago underground hip-hop MC. Advance tickets: \$16. **Feb. 20: Kap Slap.** All ages admitted. Stage name of Boston-area electronic dance music DJ/producer Jared Lucas. Advance tickets: \$15. 8 p.m.-midnight. **Feb. 21: After Funk.** Progressive funk-soul fusion by this Toronto quintet. Opening acts are **Stormy Chromer**, a local progressive jam-rock quartet, and **Sun Tribe**, a Detroit jazz-inflected psychedelic-groove jam quartet. **Feb. 22: That 1 Guy.** The stage name of Mike Silverman, a Berkeley-based classically trained bassist who has created his own instrument, the "Magic Pipe," which his website describes as a "system of electronically wired steel plumbing, shaped somewhat like a harp, with a thick bass string wired from top to bottom and a hole that billows smoke during the climax of his live shows." Advance tickets: \$12 (\$14 at the door). 8 p.m.-midnight. **Feb. 24: Disappears and Suuns.** Double bill. Disappears is a Chicago art-rock garage quartet, and Suuns is a Montreal quartet that plays atmospheric psychedelic rock. Advance tickets: \$10 (\$12 at the door). **Feb. 26: PRhyme.** All-star hip-hop duo of DJ Premier, a former member of the influential Brooklyn ensemble Gang Starr, and Royce da 5'9", an acclaimed Detroit MC most widely known as a member with Eminem of the duo Bad Meets Evil. Advance tickets: \$20. **Feb. 27: TBA.** **Feb. 28: Electric Six.** Energetic, irreverent guitar-based rock by this widely acclaimed Detroit quintet whose music has been described as a "bizarre genetic splicing of punk, new wave, disco, and arena rock." Opening act is **Avan Lava**, a NYC dance pop band that one critic describes as "Prince, multiplied by six and jack-full of liquid-sex funk." Advance tickets: \$15.

The Blue Nile

221 E. Washington

998-4746

This downtown restaurant features live music, Fri. & Sat. 6-10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Fri. & Sat.: Louis Johnson.** Jazz standards and New Ethiopian jazz by this local pianist and saxophonist. On Saturdays he is joined by bassist Will Austin and other friends TBA.

Café Verde

214 N. Fourth Ave.

994-4589

This café in the People's Food Co-op features acoustic musicians and duos, Thurs. 6-8 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Thurs.:** TBA.

The Cavern Club

210 S. First St.

913-8890

This downtown basement club in the Celebration Cellars banquet space features occasional live music, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. There is also sometimes music in the street-level Millennium Club and Gotham City and the 2nd-floor Circus Bar & Billiards. Also, karaoke in the Circus, Wed.-Sat. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Occasional cover, dancing. **Feb. 7 & 28: Killer Flamingos.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this popular veteran band from Dearborn.

Common Cup

1511 Washtenaw

327-6914

This coffeehouse run by the University Lutheran Chapel features live music and other entertainment occasional Fri. No cover, no dancing. **Feb. 20: Lee Murdock.** Murdock is a Great Lakes troubadour who writes songs about the lives of sailors and fishermen, lighthouse keepers, ghosts, outlaws, and everyday heroes. His music blends ragtime, Irish, blues, and folk styles, and he accompanies himself on 6- and 12-string guitars. Tonight he showcases songs from his 19th CD, *What About the Water*, a 2014 collection that reached #14 on a folk radio chart. Donations accepted for the Living Water land fund. 8 p.m.

Conor O'Neill's

318 S. Main

665-2968

Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. 7:30-10 p.m. and Tues., Thurs., & Sat. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., and a DJ on Fri. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. **Every Tues.: Shaun Garth Walker.** Local singer-guitarist with an eclectic, wide-ranging repertoire. **Feb. 5: Bob Skon Trio.** Folk-rock covers and originals by this trio led by Skon, a local singer-songwriter known for his wry songs about love and loss. **Feb. 7: Joshua & Jeremy Sprague.** An eclectic mix of rock covers by these local brothers. **Feb. 12: Brother Crowe.** Traditional Irish songs of drinking and rebellion, accompanied on a wide array of instruments, by this Detroit-area duo formerly known as Bruno's Boys. **Feb. 14: Randy Brock Group.** Detroit blues trio. **Feb. 19: Reeds & Steel.** Acoustic jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by the duo of singer and harmonica player Michael May and guitarist Jimmy Alter. **Feb. 21: Comdaddy.** Local alt-country band led by singer-songwriters Kevin Brown and Jud Branam whose music filters early 70s country-rock through the influences of bluegrass, power pop, and British Invasion bombast. **Feb. 26: TBA.** **Feb. 28: Steve Mullan Band.** Keyboard-driven pop-rock by this ensemble led by Plymouth singer-songwriter Mullan.

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room

114 S. Main

665-9468

Tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music, Fri. & Sat. 8:30-10:30 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Feb. 6: Katie Pederson.** Local singer-songwriter and pianist whose influences include Sara Bareilles, Ben Folds, John Mayer, and Jon McLaughlin. Her repertoire also includes pop covers from the past 50 years. **Feb. 7: John Churchville.** Local tabla player, accompanied by several musician friends, who plays Indian classical, light classical, fusion, and folk music. **Feb. 13: The Cattedog Orchestra.** See Heidelberg. **Feb. 14: Adam La-beaux.** An eclectic mix of jazz, folk, soul, funk, and rock originals by this local singer-songwriter, a former Ragbirds guitarist. **Feb. 20: Jo Serrapere Trio.** Serrapere is a highly regarded veteran local singer-songwriter known for her spare, haunting ballads and blues and her sinewy, commanding vocals. With guitarist John Devine and bassist Laura Ann Bates. **Feb. 21: Judy Banker Band.** Local country-folk quartet led by Banker, a veteran singer-songwriter and guitarist who recently released the CD *Without You*. With fiddler Greta Mae Barnard, bassist David Roof, and dobro player Tony Pace. **Feb. 27: Joel Palmer.** Veteran Detroit singer-guitarist whose repertoire includes vintage and original blues, swing, and folk-style tunes. **Feb. 28: February Sky.** Chicago-based duo of guitarist, banjoist, and dulcimer player Susan Urban, a singer-songwriter who writes story songs and humorous slice-of-life vignettes, and guitarist Phil Cooper, who sings original arrangements of traditional and contemporary songs.

Creekside Grill and Bar

5827 Jackson Rd.

827-2737

The intimate basement bar in this restaurant in Scio Township features occasional live music. Cover, dancing. **Feb. 22: II-V-I Orchestra.** Veteran local big band, led by saxophonist David Swain, that plays late 1930s swing and 1940s R&B. With vocalist Patty O'Connor. 6:30-9 p.m.

Crossroads

517 W. Cross, Ypsilanti

340-5597

This bar & grill near EMU features live music Sun., Tues., alternate Wed., Fri. & Sat. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. "Hari Karaoke," Thurs. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover (Thurs.-Sat. only), dancing. **Every Sun.: "Country Night."** **Every Tues.: "Showcase Tuesday."** With up-and-coming local bands TBA. **Feb. 4: Blues Jam.** Hosted by **Blues Dog Inquisition**, an Ypsilanti quintet that plays hard-driving classic Chicago blues. All blues players invited. **Feb. 6: "Planting Peace Benefit."** With bands TBA. **Feb. 7: "P-Funk Nite."** Features an ensemble with bassist **T\$ Green**, P-

Funk guitarist **Andre Foxxe**, Enema Squad drummer **Gabe Gonzilla**, and others TBA. **Feb. 13: "7th Annual Bloody Valentine."** With music by **Devil Elvis**, an Ypsilanti punk-rockabilly Elvis tribute band, and DJ **Ayinde Audio**, along with burlesque performers, magicians, clowns, fire acts and other sideshow performers from the local Fancy Pants Arts & Entertainment. Hosted by magician Tony Scarboni. **Feb. 14: TBA.** **Feb. 18: Blues Jam.** See above. **Feb. 20: Lizerd.** Ypsilanti postpunk rock 'n' roll quintet. Opening acts TBA. **Feb. 21: TBA.** **Feb. 27: "Heavy Flow Comedy Show."** With several stand-up comics TBA. **Feb. 28: TBA.**

Dreamland Theater

26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti 657-2337

This downtown Ypsilanti theater features occasional live music. Cover (usually a donation), no dancing. **Feb. 13: Chris Bathgate.** Talented veteran local singer-songwriter—recently returned from a 2-year hiatus—who writes heartfelt, poetic story songs in a variety of moods and modes. 7 p.m.

The Elks Lodge

220 Sunset

761-7172

This basement venue in the James L. Crawford Elks Lodge rec room features soul food and live jazz, blues, & rock Fri. & Sat. 7-10 p.m. Also, DJs, Fri. & Sat. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Dancing, usually no cover except for DJ shows. Members and guests welcome. **Every Fri. & Sat.:** TBA.

Guy Hollerin's

3600 Plymouth Rd.

769-9800

The restaurant in the North Campus Holiday Inn features music on Sat. (except holiday weekends), 8 p.m.-midnight. Cover, dancing. **Feb. 7: Saints of Soul.** Detroit R&B, soul, and funk septet fronted by vocalist Sorilbran Stone. **Feb. 14: Steve Nardella Rock 'n' Roll Trio.** Ann Arbor's most passionate and compelling roots-rocker performs fiercely cathartic, blues-drenched reworkings of rock 'n' roll and rockabilly classics and obscure gems, along with some authentic Muddy Waters and John Lee Hooker blues. **Feb. 21: Jimmy McCarty & Mystery Train.** Popular rockabilly and roots-rock band led by veteran Detroit guitarist McCarty. **Feb. 28: The Teraplanes.** See Live.

The Habitat Lounge

3050 Jackson Rd.

665-3636

The lounge at Weber's Inn features dance bands Tues.-Thurs. 8:45 p.m.-12:30 a.m. and Fri. & Sat. 8:45 p.m.-1:30 a.m., along with jazz Sun. 7-11 p.m. Also, a DJ Mon., 7 p.m.-midnight, and solo pianists Tues.-Sun., 6-8:45 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Sun.: James Cornelison Quartet.** Jazz originals and standards by this U-M music student ensemble led by electric guitarist Cornelison. **Every Thurs. (except Feb. 19): Laith Al-Saadi.** See Black Pearl. **Feb. 3 & 4: Acoustic Rewind.** 80s and 90s pop covers by this Detroit acoustic duo. **Feb. 6 & 7: Persuasion.** Versatile Detroit R&B dance band. **Feb. 10 & 11: Scotty Alexander Duo.** Pop-rock covers by everyone from Elton John and Lionel Richie to Matchbox Twenty and Kings of Leon by this duo led by Brighton singer-pianist Alexander. **Feb. 13 & 14: Dan Dahsoulman & Jake Lives Band.** Local septet fronted by vocalist Dan "Dahsoulman" Carter that plays a mix of R&B, soul, and blues. **Feb. 17 & 18: Slice.** Veteran East Lansing pop dance quartet. **Feb. 19: TBA.** **Feb. 20 & 21: The Front Men.** Detroit vintage-rock band. **Feb. 24 & 25: Green-Eyed Soul.** Windsor pop trio fronted by vocalists Melissa Danese and Fallon Deluca. **Feb. 27 & 28: Soulstice.** Hard-driving horn-fueled funk dance band from East Lansing.

The Heidelberg Club Above

215 N. Main

663-7758

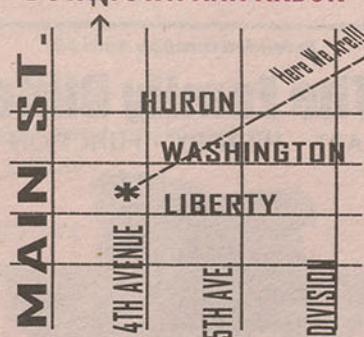
This dance club on the top floor of the Heidelberg restaurant features live music Thurs. & Sat. 9 p.m.-midnight & Fri. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Also, happy hour bands Fri. 7-9 p.m. DJs with Latin dance music Sat. midnight-2 a.m. Karaoke on Tues. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Dancing, cover. **Every Thurs. (except Feb. 5): TBA.** No music. **Feb. 6: The Shelter Dogs.** Local self-styled "lounge-a-billy" trio that plays vintage swing, rockabilly, and blues. With upright bassist Todd Perkins, guitarist Pete Bullard, and drummer Tom Twiss. 7-9 p.m. **Feb. 6: The Cattedog Orchestra.** Brighton world music quartet. Opening act is the **Nick Strange Trio**, a popular local power trio, led by singer-guitarist Dan Orcutt, that plays mostly originals, along with an eclectic mix of covers from roots rock to jazz standards. **Feb. 7: TBA.** **Feb. 13: Rhyta Musik.** Local 7-piece Balkan brass band whose music is sprinkled with New Orleans funk flavors. 7-9 p.m. **Feb. 13: TBA.** **Feb. 14: Mile High.** Detroit R&B dance quartet. **Feb. 20: Hullabaloo.**

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"The Smoking Gun Presents"
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Music at Nightspots

See Yellow Barn. 7-9 p.m. **Feb. 20: The Vibratrons.** All-star band led by veteran local rocker Dan Mulholland, the charismatic former leader of the Watutis and several other great local rock 'n' roll bands. Its repertoire includes everything from garage rock and blues to country and folk, along with more ballads than Mulholland usually essays. With guitarist Brian Delaney, keyboardist Fred Klein, bassist Dave Roof, and drummer Rich Dishman. Opening acts are **Doctor Unk**, a local 70s-influenced pop-rock dance band, and another band TBA. **Feb. 21: TBA. Feb. 27: TBA.** 7-9 p.m. **Feb. 27: Headliner TBA.** Opening acts are **Planet D Nonet**, a Detroit self-styled "space-age swing band" led by drummer RJ Spangler and trumpeter James O'Donnell, and **The Switchbacks**, a local hard-rocking country and blues quintet fronted by vocalist Janet Benson. **Feb. 28: TBA.**

LIVE

102 S. First St. 623-1443

This lounge features live music Fri. happy hour 6:30-9 p.m. and occasional evenings. Also, DJs, Mon. & Thurs.-Sat. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover (except Fri. & Sat. after 11 p.m.), dancing. **Feb. 6: Hoodang.** Wry, pungent alt-country by this local ensemble led by singer-songwriter and guitarist David Rossiter that describes its influences as "English murder ballads, hardcore American country music, and careful-you'll-cut-yourself electric blues." With guitarist Dave Keeney, bassist Ralph McKee, and percussionist John Crawford, often along with guest vocalist Sophia Hanifi. The band recently released the superb CD *Blissfield*. 6:30-9 p.m. **Feb. 13: The Terraplanes.** Local band led by singer-guitarist Jerry Mack that plays a mix of house-rocking blues, uptown swing, soulful R&B, and roots rock. **Feb. 20: The Vibratrons.** See Heidelberg. Tonight Mulholland celebrates the release of *Eclectic Warrior*, a 30-year, 2-CD retrospective collection of recordings made with 7 of his former bands, 3 of whom—the Boomerangs, the Stomp Rockets, and Kentucky Chrome—join him for portions of tonight's show. 6:30-9 p.m. **Feb. 27: Drivin' Sideways.** Veteran local band fueled by Pontiac Pete Ferguson's alternately soulful and ornery vocals. Their country-based repertoire still features lots of classic honky-tonk, but they also cover everyone from Chuck Berry and Johnny Burnette to the Beatles and James Brown. With guitarist George Bedard, bassist Pat Prouty, drummer Mark Newbound, and keyboardist Jim King. 6:30-9 p.m.

Mash

211 E. Washington 222-4095

This lounge in the basement of the Blue Tractor tavern features live music Wed. 9 p.m.-midnight and Thurs.-Sat. & occasional other nights, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Weekend happy hour music, 6-9 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Feb. 4: Michael May Duo.** Duo led by local blues and blues-rock singer-harpist May. **Feb. 5: Laura Rain & the Caesars.** An intense fusion of funk, soul, and blues by this Detroit quintet fronted by vocalist Rain. **Feb. 6: Michael May Duo.** See above. 6-9 p.m. **Feb. 6: The Terraplanes.** See Live. 6-9 p.m. **Feb. 7: The Chris Canas Blues Revolution.** Detroit blues band fronted by young blues vocalist and virtuoso guitarist Canas. **Feb. 11: Abigail Stauffer.** Local singer-songwriter with a rich, resonant alto voice who's known for her piercing, emotionally direct pop-folk and pop-rock songs. She has released 2 CDs. **Feb. 12: Ari Teitel Band.** Detroit Americana rock ensemble led by singer-songwriter and guitarist Teitel whose music draws on soul, funk, blues, and gospel influences. **Feb. 13: Nick Z.** Soulful, jazz-inflected pop-folk by this San Francisco-based singer-songwriter. 6-9 p.m. **Feb. 13: Dan Dahsoulman & Jake Lives Band.** See Habitat. **Feb. 14: Mike Vial.** Local pop-rock singer-songwriter. 6-9 p.m. **Feb. 14: Nobody's Business.** Redford blues and blues-rock band. **Feb. 18: Michael May Duo.** See above. **Feb. 19: Laura Rain & the Caesars.** See above. **Feb. 20: Mike Vial.** See above. 6-9 p.m. **Feb. 20: The Bluescasters.** Veteran local quartet that plays intense, low-down blues and blues-rock. **Feb. 21: Michael May Duo.** See above. 6-9 p.m. **Feb. 21: The Chris Canas Blues Revolution.** See above. **Feb. 25: Pat McCloskey.** Contemporary rock covers by this local singer-guitarist. **Feb. 26: The Invasion.** British Invasion cover quartet from Redford led by singer-guitarist David Roof. **Feb. 27: Dan Orcutt.** Veteran local folk-rock singer-songwriter best known through his blues-rock alter ego Nick Strange. 6-9 p.m. **Feb. 27: The Canastas.** Local quintet that plays vintage jump blues, rockabilly, rock 'n' roll, and ska. **Feb. 28: Abigail Stauffer.** See above. 6-9 p.m. **Feb. 28: Michael May & the Messarounds.** Jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by this veteran local quartet led by vocalist and blues harpist May.

Melange Subterranean Bistro

314 S. Main 222-0202

The lounge in this downtown restaurant features live music Thurs., 8-11 p.m. Also, DJs Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Thurs.: Doug Horn Trio.** Classic jazz from the American songbook by this ensemble led by local alto saxophonist Horn. With various drop-in guests TBA.

The Necto

516 E. Liberty 994-5436

This popular dance club features local and national DJs 6 nights a week, Mon.-Sat., 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Also, occasional live shows.

Old Town

122 W. Liberty 662-9291

This downtown corner bar features live music Sun., Tues., & occasional other nights, 8-10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by various drop-in friends. **Feb. 1: No music.** **Feb. 3: Sam Genson Trio.** Local jazz ensemble led by drummer Genson. **Feb. 8: Danny Kroha.** Acoustic folk, blues, and gospel by this Detroit musician, who accompanies himself on guitar, dulcimer, and diddley bow. Opening act is **Todd Albright**, a Detroit country blues singer and fingerstyle guitarist. **Feb. 10: Tracy Kash Duo.** Jazz standards by the Detroit duo of vocalist Kash and guitarist Pat Shanley. **Feb. 15: Bob Skon Trio.** See Conor O'Neill's. **Feb. 17: Dave Sharp Trio.** Straight-ahead jazz trio led by veteran local bassist Sharp. **Feb. 22: Brant Losinski.** Performance by this Rootstand frontman. **Feb. 24: Crozier/Schunk Duo.** Local jazz duo of bassist Crozier and pianist Schunk.

Oz's Music Environment

1920 Packard 662-8283

This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music most Tues. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Cover by donation, no dancing. **Feb. 3: "Songwriters Open Mike."** All songwriters invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **Feb. 24: "Ukulele Jam."** Musicians of all ability levels invited.

The Ravens Club

207 S. Main 214-0400

This downtown bar & grill features live music, Sun. 8-11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Sun.: Heather Black Project.** Vintage jazz and blues by an ensemble led by Heather Schwartz, a talented local singer whose vocal style also reflects gospel, R&B, soul, and hip-hop influences.

Rush Street

314 S. Main 913-0330

This martini lounge features nightly DJs, along with live music, Fri. 5-8 p.m., Sun. 10 p.m.-2 a.m., and occasional other nights. Dancing, no cover. **Every Fri. & Sun.: Legendary Wings.** Local jazz quintet that focuses on dynamic, challenging, and less commonly heard music from the modern jazz repertoire interspersed with free improvisation. The usual lineup features saxophonists Dan Bennett and Tim Haldeman, Fender Rhodes electric pianist Matt Endahl, bassist Jordan Schug, and drummer Nick Collins.

Silvio's Organic Pizza

715 North University 214-6666

This campus-area restaurant features live music Thurs. & Sun. 6-8 p.m., Fri. 7-9 p.m., and occasional other nights. No cover, no dancing. **Every Thurs.: Neal Anderson Quintet.** Local jazz ensemble led by trumpeter Anderson. **Every Sun.: Will Mefford.** Improvisations on jazz standards by this local pianist. **Feb. 6: Steve Rich & Tim Prosser.** The local duo of singer-guitarist Rich and singer-songwriter and "mandolin maniac" Prosser performs a mix of acoustic originals and traditional music. Also, guest musicians TBA. **Feb. 7: Dean Solden.** Jazz and blues standards and originals by a duo led by this veteran local pianist. 7:30-10 p.m. **Feb. 13: Old Friends.** The local acoustic trio of Gary Williamson, Shekinah Errington, and Griff Griffin perform an eclectic mix of songs by everyone from Otis Redding and Neil Young to Santana and Pink Floyd. **Feb. 20: Bliss.** The local trio of singer-songwriter Laura Massaro, guitarist Craig Brann, and percussionist Don Allen performs an eclectic mix of pop, folk, and world music, including originals, covers, and improvisations. **Feb. 27: J. Washburn Gardner.** Ypsilanti pop-folk singer-songwriter.

Tap Room

201 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti 482-5320

This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavern features live music Thurs. 8 p.m.-midnight, and occasional Fri. & Sat. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every**

Thurs.: **Electric Open Mike.** Hosted by **The Martindales**, a local band led by singer-guitarist Brian Brickley that plays blues and rock covers and originals. All electric musicians invited.

Vinology

110 S. Main 222-9841

This wine bar and restaurant features live jazz Thurs. 8-11 p.m. No cover, no dancing (unless otherwise noted). **Feb. 5: Paul Keller Trio.** High-energy mainstream jazz by this local ensemble led by composer-bassist Keller. With vocalist Sarah D'Angelo and keyboardist Duncan McMillan. **Feb. 12: GFK Trio.** Funky, soulful organ-based jazz by this Detroit ensemble. With organist Scott Kulik, drummer Eric Filipp, and guitarist Dan Gruszka. **Feb. 19: Medium Rare Jazz Trio.** Local jazz ensemble whose music blends world, classical, pop, and modern improvised music. **Feb. 26: Global Jazz Project.** Upbeat, inspirational contemporary jazz by a trio of Detroit-area veterans: saxophonist Mark Hershberger, guitarist and mandolinist Bastian Trimpe, and percussionist Jerry LeDuff. The *Metro Times* calls their music "high-energy contemporary funk and traditional jazz with a global interpretation."

Wolverine State Brewing Co.

2019 W. Stadium 369-2990

This west-side brewpub features occasional live music, 8:30-11:30 p.m. Cover, dancing. **Feb. 14: The Moxie Strings.** Local duo of former Dragon Wagon fiddler Diana Ladio and electric cellist Alison Lynn, who play a foot-stomping, rock-influenced fusion of traditional Celtic and Americana music.

World of Beer

1300 South University 913-2430

This campus-area bar & grill features live music Fri. & Sat. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. *Note:* The music programming is temporarily suspended while the bar renovates its kitchen.

The Yellow Barn

416 W. Huron Ouryellowbarn.com

This performance venue just west of downtown features live music most Fri. & Sat. & occasional other nights, 7:30-11 p.m. Cover, dancing. **Feb. 6: The Hullabaloo.** Veteran local ska and 80s-style pop quintet. Opening act is **Ghost City Searchlight**, a Dearborn postpunk quartet whose music draws on Celtic and American folk idioms. **Feb. 7: Chicago Afrobeat Project.** This acclaimed Chicago-based world music ensemble blends Afrobeat, Afro-Cuban music, funk, jazz, juju music, and rock. The band's album *Nyash UP!* "is thick with politics and passion, and nearly boiling over with simmering funk," says a *Rhapsody.com* review. "But while fat, familiar low brass darts in and out, that's filtered through jazz, avant-R&B, lounge and hip-hop." **Feb. 13: Salmagundi.** Local band that plays classic horn-powered, soul-injected Memphis-style rock 'n' roll. Opening act is **Nucleus**, a veteran Dexter band that plays classic pop-rock. **Feb. 14: Third Coast Kings.** Local horn-driven retro funk octet whose eponymous debut CD was released on the Italian funk label Record Kicks. **Feb. 15: Dixon's Violin.** Detroit concert violinist and digital effects master. **Feb. 20: "Radio-Frequency Interference."** U-M music school student dancers, musicians, and poets present an evening of collaborative works contemplating emptiness and nothingness. 6 p.m.-midnight. **Feb. 21: Aguanko.** Local Afro-Cuban jazz ensemble led by percussionist Alberto Nacif. **Feb. 22: Genome.** Electronic worldbeat featuring elements of funk, jazz, and psychedelia by this sextet that's spun off from the Chicago Afrobeat Project. **Feb. 27: TBA. Feb. 28: TBA.**

Zal Gaz Grotto

2070 W. Stadium 663-1202

This Masonic social and service club hosts live music Sat. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., Sun. 5-8 p.m., Mon. 7-10 p.m., Tues. 5:30-8:30 p.m., & occasional other nights. Cover, dancing. **Every Sun.: Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings.** This local 10-piece big band is one of the few to specialize in the old-time big-band music of the late 1920s and early 1930s associated with Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver. Arrangements by the renowned early-jazz pianist James Dapogny and tubaist Chris Smith. **Every Mon.: Paul Keller Orchestra.** Award-winning 15-piece big band led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist Sarah D'Angelo and occasional guest vocalists. Also, each week features a middle set by a guest student ensemble. **Every Tues.: Paul Klinger's Easy Street Jazz Band.** Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble led by saxophonist and trumpeter Klinger.

February Events

FILMS

- 55 Film Screenings**
John Hinchey & Katie Whitney
- 54 Deliciously Dark**
Patrick Dunn

GALLERIES

- 69 Exhibit Openings**
Katie Whitney

MUSIC AT NIGHTSPOTS

- 44 Nightspots**
John Hinchey
- The Understorey**
Chris Berggren



LISA GAVEN

PTD Productions presents Christopher Durang's Tony-winning comedy *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, at Riverside Arts Center Feb. 19-22, 24, and 26-28.

EVENTS REVIEWS

- 53 Tomasz Stańko**
The trumpet, Romanticism, and Polish jazz
Piotr Michalowski
- 63 Mendelssohn's Elijah**
The heights and depths of devotion
arwulf arwulf
- 65 Henrik Karapetyan & Francis Yun**
Twelve extra strings
Sandor Slomovits
- 71 Fix-It Friday**
Friendly, expert repairs for free
Anita LeBlanc
- 73 Albert Lee**
The greatest guitar player in the world?
James M. Manheim
- 75 Natalie Diaz**
The beauty of a busted fruit
Keith Taylor

We want to know about your event!

Please send a press release (no phone calls, please).

- **By email:** events@aaobserver.com
- **By phone:** 769-3175
- **By mail:** Katie Whitney, Calendar Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103
- **By fax:** 769-3375
- **After-hours drop box:** left side of the Observer's front door facing Winewood

What gets in?

We give priority to Ann Arbor events. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

Next month's deadline:

All appropriate materials received by the tenth day of the month for the upcoming month will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in (but will be added to AnnArborObserver.com).

★ Denotes a free event.

annarborobserver.com:

An expanded, continually updated version of this calendar is available at AnnArborObserver.com. This calendar is updated daily. If you have an event not listed in the print calendar, or want to update a listed event, please send it and we'll post it on annarborobserver.com.

arbormail:

Get your alerts by email—send a reminder when your favorite performer, group, or special event shows up in town. Sign up at AnnArborObserver.com/arbormail_help.html.

WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednesday.

www.AnnArborObserver.com

I SUNDAY

★**Winter Democratic Rides: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** Every Tues.-Fri. & Sun., Dec.-Mar. The assembled riders choose their own pace, distance, and destination. A similar ride leaves Tues.-Fri. at 11 a.m. from the gazebo in downtown Dexter (994-5908), and from Wheeler Park on Thurs. at 6:30 p.m. (662-0205), and on Sat. & Sun. at 1 p.m. (994-5908). *Note:* Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a water bottle, a spare tire or tube, a pump, a cell phone, and snacks. 10 a.m., meet at *Wheels in Motion*, 3400 Washtenaw. Free. 545-0541.

★**"The Essence of Tibetan Buddhism": Jewel Heart Buddhist Center.** Every Sun. Talk by **Gelek Rimpoche**, an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor. 10-11 a.m., *Jewel Heart Center*, 1129 Oak Valley Dr. (between Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. & Ellsworth). Free. 994-3387.

★**Tu B'Shevat Celebration: Jewish Cultural Society.** All invited to celebrate the Jewish "New Year of the Trees." Activities include storytelling and a tour of the Matthaei conservatory. 10 a.m.-noon, U-M

Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 975-9872.

★**Critter House Open Hours: Leslie Science & Nature Center.** Every Sun. All invited to watch frogs, turtles, snakes, rabbits, and more as they hop, crawl, and slither in their homes. LSNC animals include both species native to the region and exotic animals that have been donated. Noon-3 p.m. *Leslie Science & Nature Center*, 1831 Traver Rd. Free. 997-1553.

★**"Engaging with Art": UMMA.** Every Sun. Docents lead tours of the UMMA collection, with themes based on their interests. 1 p.m. *UMMA*, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

U-M Natural History Museum Planetarium. Every Sat. & Sun. through Feb. 1. Three different audiovisual planetarium shows. *The Sky Tonight* (Sat. 11:30 a.m., Sat. & Sun. 1:30 & 3:30 p.m.) is an exploration of the current night sky. *Extrasolar Planets: Discovering New Worlds* (Sat. 12:30 p.m.) is an audiovisual show exploring the likelihood that recently discovered planets outside the solar system might be habitable or even already inhabited. *Sun-struck* (Sat. & Sun. 2:30 p.m.) explores the nature of the sun, how its energy makes life on earth possible, and what its eventual death portends. Various

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february highlights

Ann Arbor District Library

Events will take place in the Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room, unless otherwise noted.



Kate Rosenblum



Kyoung Sun Cho



Ruth Ozeki



February 12



Four Perfect Pebbles



April Ryan



February 21

- Tuesday 3** 7:00 - 8:30 pm **BRIGHT NIGHTS COMMUNITY FORUM • Depression During Childbearing Years: Strategies for Prevention, Intervention & Raising Resilient Children** with Kate Rosenblum, PhD
- Wednesday 4** 7:00 - 8:30 pm **Home Energy Conservation** • DTE representative will discuss how to save money on home energy • MALLETT'S CREEK BRANCH
- Wednesday 4** 7:00 - 8:30 pm **How to Watch Experimental Film** • Watch and discuss a few "canonical" works of experimental cinema with Daniel Herbert, U-M Assoc. Professor, Screen Arts & Cultures
- Saturday 7** 2:00 - 3:30 pm **Up Close: An Introduction to Korean Classical Music** Professors Kyoung Sun Cho and Seungmi Suh showcase two traditional Korean musical instruments • DT 4TH FL. MEETING ROOM
- Sunday 8** 2:00 - 3:00 pm **Play Connection with Therapy Dogs for Children on the Autism Spectrum** • Open play session with the opportunity to talk with Dr. Rick Solomon • PRESCHOOL - GRADE 5
- Tuesday 10** 6:30 - 8:45 pm **Chanel No. 5: The Art & Science Behind a Timeless Perfume** Fragrance expert Michelle Krell Kydd explores this classic scent through a past, present, and future lens • GRADE 6 - ADULT
- Tuesday 10** 6:30 - 8:00 pm **Ron Gries, Author of *Through Death to Life***, shares his journey of recapturing joy after his wife's death • MALLETT'S CREEK BRANCH
- Wednesday 11** 7:00 - 8:30 pm **Darwin: Books, Beetles, and Blasphemy** with David Wooten, Professor of Biology, Washtenaw Community College
- Wednesday 11** 7:00 - 9:00 pm **ANN ARBOR/YPSILANTI READS 2015 AUTHOR EVENT • Ruth Ozeki, Author of *A Tale for the Time Being*** • Filmmaker, novelist, and Zen Buddhist priest Ruth Ozeki will discuss her work. The event includes a book signing with books for sale • RACKHAM AUDITORIUM, 915 E. WASHINGTON • GRADE 9 - ADULT
- Thursday 12** 7:00 - 8:30 pm **CITY OF ANN ARBOR 2015 SUSTAINABLE ANN ARBOR FORUM • Economic Vitality** • Discussion includes current economic development projects, community investment, and business development
- Thursday 12** 7:00 - 8:30 pm **Four Perfect Pebbles: A Talk with Holocaust Survivor & Author Marion Blumenthal Lazan** • Marion discusses her memoir for young people about her family's struggle to survive the horrors of the Nazis • DT 4TH FL. MEETING ROOM • GRADE 4 - ADULT
- Saturday 14** 1:00 - 2:00 pm **Perchance to Dreame: Music of 17th Century England** with Les Voix Humaines, Susie Napper and Margaret Little
- Monday 16** 7:00 - 8:30 pm **BLACK HISTORY MONTH • Journalist April Ryan Discusses Her New Book, *The Presidency in Black and White: My Up-Close View of Three Presidents and Race in America*** • The White House correspondent for American Urban Radio Networks will discuss her book, for sale at this event
- Thursday 19** 7:00 - 8:30 pm **When the Going Gets Tough: Gut Problems in Older Adults** with Karen Hall, MD, PhD, U-M Geriatric and Palliative Medicine
- Saturday 21** 2:00 - 3:00 pm **BLACK HISTORY MONTH CONCERT • Pan African Youth Orchestra** Led by Kweku Kwakye, this group traveled from Ghana to Michigan to perform at AADL and area schools • ALL AGES
- Thursday 26** 7:00 - 8:30 pm **ANN ARBOR/YPSILANTI READS • What Goes Around Comes Around: The Transpacific Gyre** in Ruth Ozeki's *A Tale for the Time Being* • U-M Professor of Japanese History Leslie Pincus discusses the insights Ozeki's novel gives into Japanese history and culture • TRAVERWOOD BRANCH

For more information: 327.4555 or aadl.org

times, U-M Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. \$5. 764-0478.

Waterloo Natural History Association. Every Sun. Feb. 1 (2-3 p.m.): "Fish, from Head to Tail." Michigan Institute for Fisheries Research fish biologist Kevin Wehrly and fisheries technician Brad Utrup display various species of live Michigan fish and discuss the adaptations, behaviors, and structures that help them survive in Michigan lakes and streams. Feb. 8 (2-3 p.m.): "Skins, Scat, and Skulls." Presentation and demonstration walk by naturalist Dave Szczygiel, with specimens from his collection of Michigan animal skulls and skins, on how various creatures use their specialized body parts and how to recognize animal signs in the wild. Feb. 15 (10 a.m.-2 p.m., Mill Lake parking lot, follow the signs from the north end of Pierce Rd., north off I-94 exit 157): "Family Ice Fishing and Bonfire." All invited to watch an ice-fishing demo or try it yourself. Also, an area cleared for skating. Followed by a bonfire with hot cocoa and marshmallows to roast. Weather permitting. Feb. 22 (2-3 p.m.): "Animals Have Class." Science Alive (Grand Rapids) representatives bring a variety of live mammals, fish, amphibians, reptiles, and birds to present a hands-on introduction to these animal classifications. Various times, Eddy Discovery Center lower parking lot (except as noted), Bush Rd. (west off Pierce Rd. from I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. \$2 (families, \$5). Space limited; preregistration required. \$10 annual vehicle entrance fee. 475-3170.

★"Kerry Tales: Buckle Your Shoe with Mother Goose": Kerrytown Shops. 30-minute family-oriented program of rhymes, riddles, and stories with local storyteller Trudy Bulkley as Mother Goose. 2 p.m., Hollander's, 410 N. Fourth Ave. (Kerrytown). Free. 769-3115.

★Dinosaur Tours: U-M Natural History Museum. Every Sat. & Sun. 30-minute docent-led tour of the museum's dinosaur exhibits. 2 p.m., U-M Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free, but limited to the first 15 people to sign up for each tour. 764-0478.

★"Suspended Moments of Childhood": UMMA. Feb. 1 & 15. Docent-led tour of the current exhibit of photos from the David S. Rosen Collection, which includes works by photographers known for their images of childhood, including Sally Mann, Dawoud Bey, and Helen Levitt, as well as photos by the late Rosen, who was a U-M pediatrician. 2-3 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

Sketch Comedy Revue: Greenhills School Voodoo Theater Company. Jan. 31 & Feb. 1. Greenhills students present comedy sketches they've written and produced. 2 p.m. (Feb. 1) & 7:30 p.m. (Jan. 31), Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. \$5. 769-4010.

★"Sci-Tech": Ann Arbor District Library. Every Sat. & Feb. 1 & 22. GameStart staff present hands-on introductions to various computer skills. Feb. 1: "Roblox Studio." Learn how to combine elements of art, design, math, and physics to make your own video game. For kids in grades 3-8. Feb. 7: "Your Game from the Ground Up." Learn the basics of character design, computer animation, and video game development using the popular free game development platform Unity 3D. For teens in grades 9-12. Feb. 14: "Art and 3D Animation." Learn the basics of 3D animation and lighting techniques. For kids in grades 3-8. Feb. 21: "Minecraft Programming." Learn how to program Minecraft using the Python programming language. For kids in grades 3-8. Feb. 22: "Minecraft Modding." Learn how to build Minecraft mods (short for modifications) using the Java programming language. For kids in grades 5-8. Feb. 28: "Board Game Maker." Learn how to make your own board game. For kids in grades 1-12. In the AADL freespace (3rd floor). 2-3:30 p.m., AADL training center (except as noted), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

Contact Improv. Every Sun. All invited to try this interactive, free-form dance style that involves a rolling point of contact between two or more people through which dancers give and share weight. It is somewhere between tango, modern dance, aikido, wrestling, gymnastics, and none of the above, and usually takes place without music. People do contact improv in any combination of genders, and there are no steps. No partner required; beginners welcome. Followed by discussion and socializing. 2-4 p.m., SOMA, 218 N. Fourth Ave., ste. 204. \$5-\$10 sliding scale based on ability to pay. 604-4416.

"You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown": Huron High School Players. Jan. 30-Feb. 1 and Feb. 6 & 7. Students present Clark Gesner's 1967 musical comedy, an appealing blend of joy and pathos wrung from the familiar antics of Charles Schulz's Peanuts gang that concludes with the entire cast summarizing their ideas of what constitutes true happiness. 2 p.m. (Sun.) & 7:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), Huron High School New Theater, 2727 Fuller. Tickets \$12 (students & seniors, \$10) at the door only. 994-2040.

"Steel Magnolias": Purple Rose Theatre Company. Every Wed.-Sun., Jan. 15-Mar. 14. Guy Saville directs local actors in Robert Harling's loving and beloved portrait of eccentricity in the small-town South. Set in a home-based beauty parlor in Chinquapin, Louisiana, the play celebrates the strength of 6 humorous and individualistic women who share light moments and pull together when tragedy strikes. Cast: Susan Craves, Rachel Hull, Lauren Knox, Loral Merlington, Michelle Mountain, and Rhianon Ragland. 2 p.m. (Wed. & Sun.), 7 p.m. (Wed. & Thurs.), 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), & 3 p.m. (Sat.), Purple Rose Theatre, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Tickets \$27 (Wed. matinee), \$15 (Wed. & Thurs. eves.), \$37 (Fri. & weekend matinees), \$42 (Sat. eve.) in advance at purplerosetheatre.org, and by phone. 433-7673.

"Yellowman": Performance Network. Every Thurs.-Sun., Jan. 15-Feb. 15. Lynch Travis directs Dael Orlandersmith's 2002 Pulitzer finalist, a two-actor multi-character love story exploring internal racism within the Black community. Set in the Gullah community in 1960s South Carolina, it's the story of a large, dark-skinned African American woman who dreams of life beyond the confines of her small-town Southern upbringing, and the light-skinned, muscular man whose fate is tragically intertwined with hers from youth through adulthood. Stars Cassandra Freeman and Jonathon West. 2 p.m. (Sun.), 3 p.m. (Sat.), 7:30 p.m. (Thurs.), & 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Tickets \$34 (Fri. & Sun.), \$27 (Sat. matinee), \$39 (Sat. eve) in advance by phone and at pntheatre.org, and at the door. \$3 discounts for seniors age 60 & older, half price (except Sat. eve) for students with ID. 663-0681.

"Tick, Tick ... Boom!": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. Jan. 30-Feb. 1 & Feb. 6-8. Rachel Francisco directs Rent composer Jonathan Larson's autobiographical rock musical about an aspiring composer who questions his life choices on the eve of his 30th birthday. Cast: Dan Kitzman, Kate Papachristou, and Arjun Nagpal. 2 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.) & 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), A2CT Studio, 322 W. Ann. Tickets \$15 in advance and at the door. 971-2228.

"Guys on Ice": Encore Musical Theatre Company. Every Thurs.-Sun., Jan. 29-Feb. 22. Tobin Hisong directs this local professional theater company in Fred Alley & James Kaplan's charming, offbeat musical comedy about ice fishing in Wisconsin. Three ice fishermen joke and philosophize in a ramshackle shanty that one describes as "a cross between an outhouse and a Zen temple." One man dreams of the fish that will rocket him into TV fishing show fame. Another is in trouble for wanting to attend a Packers game on his wedding anniversary. A third is an obnoxious moocher. Songs in the folk-flavored score include a paean to the virtues of snowmobile suits. Cast: Peter John Riopelle, Timothy Brayman, and Keith Kalinowski. 3 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), 7 p.m. (Thurs.), & 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), Encore, 3126 Broad St., Dexter. Tickets \$18 on Jan. 29 only, \$26 (seniors, \$24; youth & groups of 10 or more, \$22) on Thurs.; \$32 (seniors, \$30; youth & groups of 10 or more, \$28) on Fri. & Sat. eve. \$28 (seniors, \$26; youth & groups of 10 or more, \$24) for all matinees in advance at theencoretheatre.org and at the door. \$15 student rush tickets (if available) an hour before showtime. 268-6200.

★"Evolution of Whales": U-M Natural History Museum. Every Sat. & Sun., Jan. 10-Feb. 1. Hands-on 20-minute interactive demo exploring how whales adapted to thrive underwater. Geared toward adults and kids age 5 & up. 3 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.) & 11 a.m. (Sat.), Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764-0478.

★"Free Verse Poetry": Ann Arbor District Library. Local poets Fiona Chamness and Alex Kime, both Neutral Zone staffers, host a hands-on introduction to writing free-verse poetry for adults and teens in grade 6 & up. 3-4:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

★Eunmi Ko: U-M School of Music. This University of South Florida piano professor performs works by Feldman, Bach, Annunziata, Schoenberg, Poulenc, and Seunghee Lee. 3 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baites (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615-3204.

★"Almost Candlemas: Day into Dusk Hike": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads a hike into the woods and open fields of this preserve near the Huron River. Followed by hot drinks. 4-6 p.m., Burns-Stokes Preserve, Zeeb Rd. at the Huron River just south of Huron River Dr. Free. 971-6337, ext. 334.

★"DIY Wrapped Yarn Vases": Ann Arbor District Library. Craft activity for 3rd-graders through adults. 4-5 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-8301.

"Wine, Women, and Song XIII": Kerrytown Concert House. Jan. 30-Feb. 1 and Feb. 6 & 7. An elegant evening of jazz, classical, and cabaret songs showcasing noted local women singers, ac-

ANN ARBOR | YPSILANTI READS 2015

ONE BOOK | many conversations

Ruth Ozeki

Author of the NYT Bestseller *A Tale for the Time Being*



Wednesday, February 11
7 - 9 PM

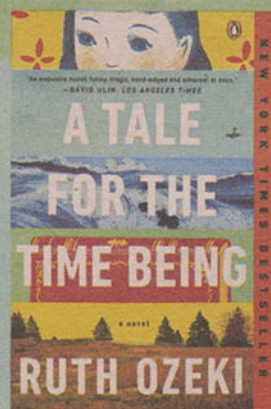
Rackham Auditorium
915 E. Washington

GRADE 9 - ADULT

DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM. Books will be for sale and community organizations will have resource

information available. Ms. Ozeki will sign books after her presentation.

Novelist, filmmaker, and Zen Buddhist priest Ruth Ozeki makes a special appearance to discuss her work and book, *A Tale for the Time Being*, the focus of Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads 2015.



Ruth Ozeki's novel, *A Tale for the Time Being*, is filled with Ozeki's signature humor and is deeply engaged with the relationships between the writer and reader, past and present, fact and fiction, quantum physics, history, and myth.

Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads is a community initiative to promote reading and civic dialogue through the shared experience of reading and discussing a common book.



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compared by pianist Jerry DePuit. Singers include Deanna Relyea, Linda Beaupre, Sue Booth, Carolyn Burnstein, Shelley MacMillan, Susan Shipman, Lisa Tucker-Gray, and Kathy Waugh. Wendy Bloom directs. Wine is served. 4 p.m. (Feb. 1) & 8 p.m. (Jan. 30 & 31 and Feb. 6 & 7), KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$20-\$50 in advance at kerrytownconcerthouse.com. Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

★**Ann Arbor Go Club.** Every Sun. & Thurs. Players of all skill levels invited to play what's regarded as the world's most difficult board game. No partner necessary. Boards and stones provided. 5-9 p.m. (Sun.) & 7-11 p.m. (Thurs.), Espresso Royale, 322 S. State. Free. umich.edu/~goclub

★**Ann Arbor Morris.** Every Sun. All invited to try this boisterous, jingly English ceremonial dance thought to be descended from the 15th-century Spanish *moresca*. Wear athletic shoes. 6-8 p.m., Gretchen's House Childcare Center, 1580 Dhu Varren. Free. Email a2morris@umich.edu to confirm. 717-1569.

★**"Winterreise": St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Music for Meditation.** St. Andrew's rector Alan Gibson, a baritone, is accompanied by the St. Andrew's music director Deborah Friauff on piano in a performance of Schubert's monumental song cycle, whose libretto by Wilhelm Müller relates the heartbreak of a solitary traveler through a cruel winter landscape. 7-8 p.m., St. Andrew's, 306 N. Division. Free. 663-0518.

★**"Trở Về Quê Hương (Take Me Back Home)": U-M Vietnamese Student Association Cultural Night.** U-M students perform traditional and modern Vietnamese dances, music, and theater. Proceeds benefit the Viet Dreams Foundation. 7 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University. Tickets \$5 in advance. \$10 (students, \$8) at the door. umichvsaboard@umich.edu

★**Ann Arbor Poetry Slam.** Every Sun. All poets invited to compete in a poetry slam judged by a panel randomly chosen from the audience. The program begins with a brief poetry open mike and (usually) a short set by a featured poet. 8-11 p.m. (sign-up begins at 7:30 p.m.), Silvio's, 715 North University. \$5 suggested donation. 985-0736.

★**"Chili Challis' UNclub Comedy Open Mike": Emergent Arts.** Every Sun. Performances by aspiring and experienced comics from former *Tonight Show* staff writer Challis's comedy dojo. Emcee is Mark Sweetman. Refreshments. 8 p.m., The Mix Studio Theater, 8 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. \$5 suggested donation. emergentarts.com, 985-0875.

2 MONDAY (GROUNDHOG DAY)

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Women's Chamber Chorus.** Every Mon., Jan. 12-Apr. 13. All invited to join this independent 30-member local women's chorus to sing everything from Bach and Hungarian folk songs to madrigals and pop tunes. David Perample directs. 10-11:30 a.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh. Free to visitors (\$115 per semester dues for those who join). 665-9271.

★**"Playgroups for Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** Every Mon. Playgroup for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. Note: Play days are also offered at the Malletts Creek (Tues. 10-11 a.m., & Thurs. 6:30-7:30 p.m.), Pittsfield (Wed. 11 a.m.-noon), and Traverwood (Fri. 10:30-11:30 a.m.) branches. 10:30-11:30 a.m., AADL, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301 (main library), 327-4200 (branches).

★**Bridge: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program.** Every Mon. & Fri. All seniors invited to play bridge. Some experience necessary. 12:30-4:30 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9353.

★**Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** Every Mon., Wed., & Thurs. All ages invited to play non-sanctioned (Mon.) & ACBL-sanctioned (Wed. & Thurs.) duplicate bridge. Bring a partner. Refreshments. 12:30-4 p.m. (Mon.) & Noon-3:45 p.m. (Wed. & Thurs.), Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$3 (members, \$2) on Mon., \$7 (members, \$6) on Wed. & Thurs., 794-6250.

★**Social Mah-Jongg: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** Every Mon. & Thurs. All ages invited to play this intricate game that uses colorful tiles. Lunch available at 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. (\$5.50; age 60 & over, \$3; reservations required). 1-3:30 p.m. (Mon.) & 10-11:30 a.m. (Thurs.), Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$2 (members, free). 794-6250.

★**Writing Group: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program.** Every Mon. All seniors invited to read and discuss poetry, essays, fiction, and reminiscences they have written. 1-3 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9353.

★**ESL Conversation Group: Ann Arbor District Library.** Every Mon., Tues., Wed., & Fri. except Feb. 16. All levels of English speakers invited for conversation. 1-2:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch (Mon.),

2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd.; 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch (Tues. & Wed.), 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy.; & 1-2:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch (Fri.), 3090 E. Eisenhower between Stone School & Packard. Free. 327-4200.

★**"Old Islam in Detroit: Rediscovering the Muslim American Past": U-M Islamic Studies Program.** Talk by U-M Dearborn history professor Sally Howell. 4-5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 936-2777.

★**"Ann Arbor Downtown Group Run": Running Fit.** Every Mon. & Thurs. Runners of all abilities invited to join a weekly run, 3-8 miles, along varying routes. Snacks provided. Rain or shine. 6:15 p.m. (Mon.) & 6:30 p.m. (Thurs.), Running Fit, 123 E. Liberty. Free. 769-5016.

★**"Nosh and Knowledge": Temple Beth Emeth.** Feb. 2 & 5. TBE congregational services director Avital Ostfeld leads a discussion of articles about the conflict in Israel last summer during Operation Protective Edge. 7 p.m. (Feb. 2) & noon (Feb. 5), TBE, 2309 Packard. Free. For reading materials: aostfeld@templebethemeth.org. For info: 665-4744.

★**New Members Night: Out Loud Chorus.** Feb. 2 & 9. Beginning to advanced singers invited to join the weekly rehearsal of this chorus of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their friends. Snacks. 7-9:30 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 1400 W. Stadium. Free. 265-0740.

★**Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers.** Every Mon. Jigs, reels, and strathspeys, usually with live music. All dances taught; beginners welcome. 7:30-9:30 p.m., the Barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. \$5. 395-7782, 769-1052, 426-0241.

★**Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society.** All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by viol teacher and early music specialist Janet Cannon. Music provided; bring your own music stand. 7:30-9:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free to visitors (\$35 annual dues for those who join). 274-9463.

★**Pub Quiz: Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub.** Every Mon. Local high school English teacher Barry Aherne throws out questions for anyone to answer at this popular weekly trivia fest. Come with a team (up to 6 people) or join one. Prizes. 8:30-11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. \$5 team fee. 665-2968.

3 TUESDAY

★**"Tiny Tot Time: Winter Adventures": Leslie Science & Nature Center.** All kids ages 1-3 (accompanied by a caregiver) invited to learn about the winter landscape and the plants and animals that inhabit it. Snacks provided; dress for the outdoors. 9:15-10:45 a.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver. \$8 per child. Space limited; preregistration recommended. 997-1553.

★**Coffee Break: Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church.** Every Tues. (when Ann Arbor Public Schools are in session). All women invited to study the Bible with other American and international women in small, informal groups. Also, Bible stories and fun activities for preschoolers, and child care provided for babies. 9:45-11:15 a.m. & 1:15-2:45 p.m., Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church, 1717 Broadway. \$15 for the year. 665-0105.

★**Storytime: Nicola's Books.** Every Tues. & Sat. An experienced storyteller spins yarns for kids age 7 & under. The Tues. storytime is geared toward preschoolers and includes a craft activity. Also, on Feb. 21 only, the Huron Valley Humane Society brings adoptable pets to a storytime that includes activities and crafts. The Feb. 21 storytime is geared toward kids ages 2-5. 10 a.m. (Tues.) & 11 a.m. (Sat.), Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★**Preschool Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library.** Every Tues. & Wed. Stories and songs for kids ages 2-5 (accompanied by an adult). Note: These storytimes are also offered at the Traverwood (Tues. 11-11:30 a.m., Wed. 6-6:30 p.m., & Thurs. 10-10:30 a.m.), Malletts Creek (Wed. 10-10:30 a.m.), and Pittsfield (Thurs. 7-7:30 p.m. & Fri. 10-10:30 a.m.) branches. 10-10:30 a.m. (Tues.) & 11-11:30 a.m. (Wed.), AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301 (main library), 327-4200 (branches).

★**Scrabble: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** Every Tues. All ages invited to play this popular word game. Lunch available for \$5.50 (age 60 & over, \$3) at 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.; reservations required. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$2 (members, free). 794-6250.

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Voices Valiant (U-M School of Music).** Every Tues. All age 50 & over invited to join this choir. No experience necessary. 10:30 a.m., Trinity Lutheran Church Sanctuary, 1400 W.

Stadium. Free to visitors (\$100 per cycle for members). 936-2660.

★Adults Tuesday: Jewish Community Center. Every Tues. Activities begin at 11 a.m. with "Energy Exercise" (\$4), a 60-minute workout led by Maria Farquhar. Also, at 1 p.m., mah-jongg, quilting, and other games & activities. Homemade buffet luncheon (\$3) available at noon. All invited. 11 a.m.-3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free (except as noted). 971-0990.

Newcomers Coterie Club of Ann Arbor. Grand Valley State graphics design and illustration professor Lorelle Otis Thomas discusses "Valentine Cards." Also, a display of antique and vintage Valentine cards. All newcomers to the area or longtime Ann Arbor area residents invited to get to know each other, sign up for club activities, and play some fun games. The program begins with lunch. 11:30 a.m., Polo Fields Golf & Country Club, 5200 Polo Fields Dr. (off Zeeb Rd. north of Liberty), Scio Twp. \$18. Preregistration required via email to highjs1@gmail.com. 929-2841.

★Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Chinese Studies. Every Tues. except Feb. 17. Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Free sandwiches, cookies, & coffee served. Feb. 3: University of California—Riverside art history professor J.P. Park on "The Anxiety of Influence: (Mis)reading Chinese Art in Late Choson Korea." Feb. 10: U-M School of Information professor Silvia Lindtner on "Hacking with Chinese Characteristics: The Making of a Powerful Vision of Change." Feb. 24: Brown University history professor Rebecca Nedostup on "Experiencing Long War in Mid-Twentieth Century China and Taiwan." Noon-1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-6308.

★Brown Bag Lecture: U-M Institute for the Humanities. Every Tues. except Feb. 17. Bring a bag lunch. Feb. 3: University of Queensland literature professor Gillian Whitlock presents "The Hospitality of Cyberspace," a talk about maritime voyages filmed and narrated by asylum seekers creating their own testimonial narratives to be disseminated through both conventional and new media. Feb. 10: University of Chicago English professor Hillary Chute on "The Work of Alison Bechdel." Feb. 24: Bard College performance art professor Laura Kuhn, the founding director of the John Cage Trust, on "The Accidental Archive." 12:30-1:30 p.m., 202 S. Thayer, room 2022. Free. 936-3518.

★Story Time: Bookbound. Every Tues. & Thurs. except Feb. 17 & 19. Linda Zimmer reads seasonal stories for kids age 6 & under. 6 p.m. (Tues.) & 10:30 a.m. (Thurs.), Bookbound, 1729 Plymouth, Court-yard Shops. Free. 369-4345.

★Tuesday Dinner Ride: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Tues. Dec.-Mar. 10- to 20-mile ride, at various paces, along the well-maintained Border-to-Border Trail, to a restaurant in either Ann Arbor or Ypsilanti. Front & back lights required, reflective clothing strongly recommended. 6 p.m., meet at Wheels in Motion, 3400 Washtenaw. Free. 678-8297, 971-2121.

★"Ann Arbor East Group Run": Running Fit. Every Tues. Runners of all abilities invited to join a weekly run, 3-8 miles, along varying routes. Snacks provided. Rain or shine. 6:15 p.m., Running Fit, 3010 Washtenaw. Free. 548-6299.

★"Knit Happens": Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch. Every Tues. All knitters invited to work on their projects and swap knitting tips. 6:30-8:30 p.m., location TBA at meetup.com/ann-arbor-stitchnbitch/. Free. 945-3035.

English Country Dancing: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Every Tues. Historical and traditional English dancing to live music. All dances taught. No partner or experience needed. Bring flat, nonslip shoes (running shoes OK). First-timers are asked to arrive at 7 p.m. 7-9:30 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. (park on Burbank). \$8 (students, \$4; kids age 13 & under with a parent, free). 665-7704.

★"Depression During Childbearing Years: Strategies for Prevention, Intervention, and Raising Resilient Children": Ann Arbor District Library Bright Nights Community Forum. Talk by U-M psychiatry professor Kate Rosenblum. Followed by a Q&A with U-M Depression Center experts. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★Feminist Book Club: Literati Bookstore. All invited to discuss *Americanah*, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's 2014 novel about a young Nigerian couple who depart military-ruled Nigeria but must separate when one can't emigrate to the U.S. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. 585-5567.

★Weekly Rehearsal: Treetown Community Chorus. Every Tues., Jan. 6-Apr. 28. All invited to join this fun-loving independent local mixed chorus to sing mostly familiar tunes, along with some serious music, in various genres. David Perample directs.

7-9 p.m., Gladwin Center barn, 4105 W. Liberty. Free to visitors (\$125 per semester dues for those who join). 355-7738.

★Voices in Harmony Sweet Adelines. Every Tues. All women invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local 70-member a cappella barbershop harmony chorus. 7-9:30 p.m., UAW Local 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Rd. (west of Rawsonville Rd. off I-94), Ypsilanti. Free to visitors (\$26 monthly dues for those who join). 612-7580.

★"I'm Not Racist ... Am I?": Greenhills School. Screening of this documentary that examines how young people confront racism. Followed by a Q&A with the film's producer, André Lee. 7 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. Free. nhall@greenhillsschool.org

★Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. Every Tues. All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. 7:30 p.m., Stony Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free to visitors (\$130 annual dues for those who join). Newcomers should call in advance: Greg Humbel, 445-1925.

★Ann Arbor Camera Club. Club members show their recent digital images & prints on various topics, including this month's assignment, "Farm Animals." 7:30 p.m., Wines Elementary School auditorium, 1701 Newport. Free. 327-4781.

★"Between Death and Rebirth": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America. Talk by former Great Lakes Branch board member Dwight Ebaugh. 7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave. Free. 276-5294.

★Spanish Readers Group: Nicola's Books. All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of *En un Rincón del Alma*, Antonia Corrales's novel about a housewife who suddenly abandons her life and goes to Egypt. 7:30 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★German Speakers Round Table. Every Tues. All German speakers invited for conversation. 8-10 p.m., Grizzly Peak Brewing Company, 120 W. Washington. Free admission. 453-2394.

4 WEDNESDAY

★Chime Concert: Kerrytown Shops. Every Wed., Fri., & Sat. All invited to play one of 100 songs, with melodies transcribed in numbers, on the 17-bell chime's numbered keys. Ambitious players can add chords. Local chimemaster Heather O'Neal demonstrates. Noon-12:30 p.m. (Wed. & Fri.) & 10:30-11 a.m. (Sat.), Kerrytown Market & Shops. Free. 369-3107.

★"Tang Dynasty Poetry for a Smartphone Age": U-M Confucius Institute. U-M English and comparative literature professor David Porter discusses an app he created to make it easier for students of Chinese to read classic Chinese poetry. Noon-1 p.m., Michigan League Koessler Room. Free. 764-8888.

★Chess: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program. Every Wed. All seniors invited to play chess. Refreshments. 1-4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9353.

★"Transmutation Technology for Long-Lived Nuclear Wastes": U-M Physics Department Helmut W. Baer Lecture. Japan Atomic Energy Agency deputy director of strategic planning Hiroyuki Oigawa discusses promising research into technology that would make radioactive waste more stable. 4 p.m., 340 West Hall, 1085 South University. Free. 763-2588.

★Scrabble: Ann Arbor Scrabble Club. Every Wed. Word freaks of all abilities invited to drop in to play this popular word game, using the brand-new 5th edition Scrabble dictionary. Bring your own set, if you like. 5-8 p.m., Arbor Brewing Co., 114 E. Washington. Free. 994-0084, 277-7748.

Bingo: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Wed. All invited to play bingo. Cash prizes. 6-10 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$2 admission. \$9 per game. 769-5911.

★"Ann Arbor West Group Run": Running Fit. Every Wed. Runners of all abilities invited to join a weekly run, 3-8 miles, along varying routes. Snacks provided. Rain or shine. 6:30 p.m., Running Fit, 5700 Jackson. Free. 929-9022.

★"Les Contes d'Hoffmann": Quality 16. Live broadcast (Jan. 31, 12:55 p.m.) and taped rebroadcast (Feb. 4, 6:30 p.m.) of the Metropolitan Opera production of Offenbach's energetic operatic masterpiece based on 3 poetic tales by the German Romantic E.T.A. Hoffmann. Stars the magnetic tenor Vittorio Grigolo as the tortured hero, with Hibla Gerzmava, Erin Morley and Christine Rice as his 3 sublime heroines. 6:30-10:20 p.m., Quality 16, 3686 Jackson. Tickets \$22 (seniors, \$20; kids age 12 & under & students, \$16) in advance at goodrichqualitytheaters.com/programs/met-opera-live-2014/ and at the door. 623-7469.



Singing with Alice Parker!

February 6 - 8
First Presbyterian Church
Ann Arbor

Alice Parker, an outstanding choral composer, conductor, and teacher, shares her gifts with area musicians.

Friday, February 6, 7:00 pm Community SING
Unaccompanied audience singing led by Alice Parker.

Saturday, February 7, 10:00 am - Open Rehearsal
Alice Parker conducts an open rehearsal for church and choral musicians

Sunday, February 8 at 9:30 am - "Singing the Faith"
Worship with unaccompanied congregational singing led by Alice Parker.

All events are free.

Interested in more opportunities
to sing and study with Alice Parker
February 5-9?

Contact Tom Granum at
tgranum@firstpresbyterian.org



www.firstpresbyterian.org

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2015 TANNER LECTURE ON HUMAN VALUES

A Conversation With RUTH BADER GINSBURG

Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2015

10:00 to 11:30 AM Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University Avenue



For ticket information visit
law.umich.edu/ginsburgconvo

Sponsored by the Tanner Foundation, the University of Michigan Law School, and the University of Michigan Department of Philosophy. For more information email ginsburgconvo@umich.edu.

ALISON BECHDEL

JOAN WAS NOT JUST A VISIONARY POET AND ACTIVIST, BUT A BONA FIDE CYCLOPS.

SHE'D LOST ONE EYE IN A CHILDHOOD ACCIDENT VIVIDLY REMINISCENT OF THE WAY ODYSSEUS BLINDED POLYPHEMUS.



Events at the **Institute for the Humanities**
University of Michigan February 2015

All events are held at the Institute for the Humanities, 202 S. Thayer, unless otherwise noted.

All events are free and open to the public

734.936.3518

humint@umich.edu



Photo: From Alison Bechdel's *Fun Home*

The Hub

Innovative exhibits and arts programming.

Jan 22 - Feb 25 — *Dykes, Dads, and Moms to Watch Out For*: The Comics of **Alison Bechdel** exhibition. Gallery hours: M-F 9am-5pm

Major Lectures & Events

Presenting distinguished visitors to enhance the humanities and arts at Michigan

Feb 9 — *Geek Sublime*: An Evening with **Vikram Chandra**, Marc and Constance Jacobson Lecture, Rackham Amphitheatre, 915 E. Washington, 5pm, followed by book signing & reception. Seating is limited; please arrive early.

FellowSpeak

Ongoing exchange with our fellows past and present.

Feb 3 — "The Hospitality of Cyberspace," **Gillian Whitlock**, 12:30pm

Feb 11 — **Hillary Chute**, 2pm

Feb 24 — "The John Cage Trust: An Accidental Archive," **Laura Kuhn**, 2pm

Author's Forum

A series on books & ideas presented in collaboration with the University Library, Ann Arbor Book Festival, and Great Lakes Literary Arts Center.

Author's Forums are held in the Hatcher Graduate Library, Gallery #100, 5:30pm (unless otherwise noted).

Feb 11 — *Bad Blood*: A Conversation with **Daniel Herwitz** and **Linda Gregerson**

Digital Currents

Humanities scholarship in and about digital environments.

Feb 13 — "Teaching Games: Michigan Faculty and Graduate Student Perspectives," 2pm

Feb 20 — "Pathological, Remedial, Exceptional: Rhetorics of Mental Disability and Pedagogy" digital pedagogy workshop with **Elizabeth Brewer**, 2pm

Contexts for Classics

Rethinking the discipline(s) of classical studies

Feb 20 — *Power and the Mediterranean*, Mediterranean Topographies Interdisciplinary Workshop symposium, West Conference Room, Rackham, 1-5:30pm



www.lsa.umich.edu/humanities

★"Home Energy Conservation": Ann Arbor District Library. A DTE representative offers tips for reducing energy bills and discusses some energy-saving enhancements available for free from DTE, including showerheads and LED lightbulbs. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4555.

★"Electronic Music Production": Ann Arbor District Library. Every Wed. Veteran Detroit sound designer and dance music DJ Mike Huckaby introduces adults and teens in grade 6 & up to making electronic music. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL training center, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. Arrive early; space limited. 327-8301.

★"How To Watch Experimental Film": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by U-M screen arts & cultures professor Daniel Herbert. In anticipation of the Ann Arbor Film Festival, which returns in late March. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

Lac La Belle and The Understorey: On the Tracks Singer-Songwriter Showcase. Double bill. Lac La Belle is the popular Detroit old-time-style acoustic Americana duo of singer-songwriters Jennie Knaggs and Nick Shillace. Their recently released 3rd CD, *A Friend Too Long*, is a collection of songs about fictional characters grappling with the tensions between urban and rural, the individual and community, economic decay and a land of plenty. The Understorey (see review, p. 44) is the local country-tinged folk-rock husband-and-wife singer-songwriter duo of Jessica and Matt McCumons. The bands also talk about how they came to write the songs they perform. 7-9 p.m., Chelsea Depot, 12 Jackson, Chelsea. \$15 suggested donation. Info: call Annie Capps at 330-5226.

Ann Arbor Bridge Club. Every Wed. All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. If you plan to come without a partner, call in advance or arrive 20 minutes early. 7-11 p.m., Walden Hills clubhouse, 2114 Pauline west of Maple. (Park in the designated spaces in the lot on the north side of Pauline.) \$6 per person. 769-3994.

★**Gunnar Birkerts Architecture Discussion: A2 Modern.** U-M Bentley Historical Library archivist Sally Bund and retired U-M Law Library director Margaret Leary discuss this Detroit-based Latvian architect who designed the University Reformed Church on E. Huron (now Harvest Mission) and the underground addition to the Law Library, both noted for their use of light. Discussion follows. Light refreshments. 7-8:30 p.m., Bentley Library Whiting Room, 1150 Beal, North Campus. Free. gmshackman@comcast.net, 662-2187.

★"Steel Magnolias": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 2 & 7 p.m.

★"Introduction to Steiner's Thought": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America. Every Wed. All invited to join a discussion of Rudolf Steiner's *How to Know Higher Worlds*. 7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave. Free. 485-3764.

★**History of Books & Printing Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to discuss *Nature's Engraver*, Jenny Uglow's biography of Thomas Bewick, the popular 18th-century British engraver who published the first layman's field guide. 7:30-9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669-0451.

★**Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club.** All invited to check out the trains whizzing around on the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a depot restored by the club. 7:30-10 p.m., Michigan Central depot, 3487 Broad, Dexter. Free. 426-5100.

★**University Philharmonia Orchestra:** U-M School of Music. Oriol Sans conducts this ensemble of music majors in Bright Sheng's lush orchestration of Brahms' Intermezzo op. 118, *Black Swan*. The program also includes a Sheng Prelude, Debussy's *Petite Suite*, and Schumann's Symphony no. 1 (*Spring Symphony*). Preceded at 7:15 p.m. in the lower lobby by a lecture on the program. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 615-3204.

★"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Every Wed. Performances by up to 12 aspiring area stand-up comics. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. \$5 in advance and at the door. 996-9080.

★"Juke Box Jungle": Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. Every Wed. Conor O'Neill's staff member Ryan Halsey hosts a music trivia quiz. Prizes. 9-11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. \$3 team fee. 665-2968.

Open Dancing: Swing Ann Arbor. Every Wed. Swing dancing to recorded music. No partner needed. Bring casual or nicer shoes that stay on your feet when you're active. Preceded at 8 p.m. by a lesson. The Feb. 11 dance is a *Vintage Valentine's Day Dance* with live jazz by Alex Belhaj's Crescent City Quartet. 9-11 p.m., Michigan Union Rogel Ballroom (Feb. 4 & 11), Mason Hall Room TBA (Feb. 18), & Michigan Union Pendleton Room (Feb. 25).

\$5 (students, \$4; \$1 discount for members; free for those who attend the free lesson at 8 p.m.). 945-8428.

5 THURSDAY

★"Winter Nature Fun": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. Feb. 5 & 21. WCPARC naturalist Shawn Severance leads nature programs for kids on snowflakes (Feb. 5) and "Winter Survival" (Feb. 21). 10-11:30 a.m., County Farm Park, Platt Rd. lot. Free. 971-6337, ext. 335.

★"Infant Music, Movement, and Play: Nurturing Baby and You": Ann Arbor District Library. Local early childhood educator Gari Stein, director of Music for Little Folks, presents a program of play, movement, and touch for 3-month-olds through prewalkers (accompanied by an adult). 10-10:45 a.m., AADL youth story corner, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

★**Mah-Jongg: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program.** Every Thurs. All seniors invited to play this intricate game that uses colorful tiles. Beginners welcome. 10 a.m.-noon, Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 332-1874.

★**Older Adults Thursday: Jewish Community Center.** Every Thurs. Activities, primarily for seniors, begin at 10 a.m. with an hour of "Energy Exercise" (\$4) led by Maria Farquhar. An 11 a.m. **Current Events** discussion group led by Heather Dombey is followed at noon by a homemade dairy lunch (\$3 with reservation, \$4 without reservation and for nonseniors) and at 1 p.m. by a cultural or educational program. Feb. 5: Don Devine and David Owens, 2 retired local software developers who perform as *The Happiness Boys*, present a program of classic vaudeville tunes. Inspired by the famous vaudeville duo Billy Jones and Ernest Hare, it features songs popular between 1880 and 1950. Feb. 12: JCC Memory Preservation Lab president Jesse Bernstein hosts a show & tell on the theme of "Family Vacations." All invited to bring a photo or artifact to share. Feb. 19: McShane Photography (Lansing) owner Jena McShane presents a hands-on introduction to photography. Feb. 26: JCC member Bennett Stark discusses a topic TBA. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free (except as noted). 971-0990.

★"Saving 10,000": U-M Center for Japanese Studies. Feb. 5 & 6. Lectures and film that address the high Japanese suicide rate, which is nearly double that of the U.S. Feb. 5 (noon-1:30 p.m.): "Beyond Seppuku: A Multidisciplinary Context to Suicide in Japan," talks by U-M and visiting scholars. *Seppuku* is a ritual form of suicide traditionally used by samurai. Feb. 6 (6-8 p.m.): "Saving 10,000: Winning a War on Suicide in Japan." Screening of this award-winning documentary (Japanese, subtitles). Panel discussion follows. Noon (Feb. 5) & 6 p.m. (Feb. 6), 1636 SSWB/International Institute (Feb. 5), 1080 South University and U-M Palmer Commons Forum Hall (Feb. 6), 100 Washtenaw. Free. 764-6307.

★**Gifts of Art Concert Series: U-M Hospitals.** Every Thurs. Performances by area musicians. Feb. 5: Pianist and jazz vocalist Alvin Waddles. Feb. 12: Love songs by the Vocal Arts Ensemble. Feb. 19: Classical string music by Trio Barbutto. Feb. 26: Jazz and world music on guitar and Turkish banjo by Elden Kelly. 12-10:1 p.m., U-M Hospital Main Lobby, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free. 936-ARTS.

★**Coffee Break Concert Series: First Baptist Church.** The acclaimed young pianist Ling-Ju Lai, a U-M music school grad, presents a program of music by Romantic composers, including works by Chopin, Mendelssohn, and Schumann. Refreshments. 12:15 p.m., First Baptist Church, 517 E. Washington. Free. 663-9376.

★**U-M Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies Thursday Lecture Series.** Feb. 5: NYU history professor Jennifer Morgan on "Partus Sequitur Ventrem: Slave Law and the History of Women in Slavery." Feb. 19: U-M history professor Joshua Cole on "Exit, Voice, and Provocation: Menace and Vulnerability in Interwar French Algeria." 4 p.m., 1014 Tisch Hall, 435 S. State. Free. 615-7400.

★"Until Debt Do Us Part": U-M Ford School of Public Policy/Center for Chinese Studies. World Bank lead economist Lili Liu discusses how various countries, including China, have addressed the problem of excessive borrowing by states, localities, and other subnational governmental units. 4-5:30 p.m., 1110 Weill, 735 S. State at Hill. Free. 615-3893, 764-4189.

★"Kiki van Eijk: The Road to Wonderland": U-M School of Art & Design Penny Stamps Speaker Series. Lecture by this Dutch designer whose work, from lighting and carpets to furniture and ceramics, is playful and meticulously crafted. 5:10 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 764-9537.

★**Sergio Troncoso: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series.** Reading by this highly an-

jazz

Tomasz Stańko

The trumpet, Romanticism, and Polish jazz

Polish jazz has a fascinating history. The postwar government initially drove it underground, but during the cultural thaw that took place after 1956 the music

came out of the shadows and thrived. One of the leaders of the renewed Polish jazz scene was pianist and composer Krzysztof Komeda, who would go on to gain prominence as a film composer for Roman Polanski and others. In the late sixties his combo featured trumpeter Tomasz Stańko.

I still remember hearing him with Komeda, and, as far back as I can remember, Stańko always impressed with his deeply personal tone. It is brassy and direct, with a burnished, slightly smoky edge with a gravelly tinge. He seems to coax every note, no matter the tempo, articulating each sound with precision and care, instilling each one with an emotional load. His ballads are famously melancholy, but an element of sadness can often be found in his faster and more furious tunes. Those who know him only from his most popular ECM quartet records may have the impression that he is focused primarily on sullen ballads, but the other element that has been constant in his music making is a fascination with rhythm, one that he already shared with his mentor Komeda and that has led him to investigate everything from pulseless free forms to reggae and rap. Indeed, rhythm and its articulation drive the highly personal nature of his sound.

Stańko has been playing throughout the world for half a century, and his music has gone through many phases. He has explored strict compositional structures as well as completely free and improvised music, electronic as well as acoustic approaches, and



JOHN ROGERS

large groups as well as solo recordings and performances. Such a restless search for new inspiration is reminiscent of the path followed by another great trumpet man, Miles Davis. And yet throughout their explorations both musicians maintained core artistic identities that defined their art.

During the last decade Stańko has been spending time in New York and has formed alliances with some of the more exploratory young members of its visionary downtown scene. He will bring some of them with him when he plays at Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre on February 5, presented by UMS. Bassist Thomas Morgan and drummer Gerald Cleaver, who was born and raised in Detroit, form part of one of his current groups, but he will also be featuring Tim Berne, one of the finest alto saxophonists of the more adventurous brand of jazz. Together, they will in part revisit music from Stańko's 1975 record *Balladyna*. The title tune from the album is a reference to a wild Romantic play by the nineteenth-century classic Polish poet Juliusz Słowacki, a play full of fantastic scenes, nymphs, castles, love, jealousy, and death—a perfect metaphor for Stańko's art. The day before, on February 4, he will also be giving the annual Copernicus Lecture at U-M, sponsored by the Polish Studies Program, in the form of an interview by this writer.

—Piotr Michałowski

thologized El Paso—born fiction writer and essayist. His 2011 novel, *From This Wicked Patch of Dust*, was named one of the best books of 2012 by *Kirkus Reviews* and is noted for its nuanced portrayal of Latino characters living near the U.S.-Mexico border. Signing: 5:10 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. mslevad@umich.edu

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Iowa. The U-M also has games this month against MSU (Feb. 17, 9 p.m.) and Ohio State (Feb. 22, afternoon time TBA). 7 p.m., Crisler Center. \$15-\$50. (The MSU and Ohio State games are sold out.) 764-0247.

Euchre Night: Out Loud Chorus Fundraiser. All invited to compete in a euchre tournament. 7 p.m., Bona Sera, 20 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti. \$10. 973-6084, 663-0036.

★“Emerging Writers: Where in the World Is Your Hero? Create Page-Turning Novels by Perfecting Your Characters, Setting, and Dialogue”: Ann Arbor District Library. Local young adult fiction writer Lara Zielin and short story writer Margaret Yang discuss how to engage readers in your fiction. For adult and teen (grade 6 & up) fiction and non-fiction writers. Also, Zielin and Yang host an open house for writers to connect with one another and/or work on their projects on Feb. 19. 7-8:45 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3334 Traver at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327-4555.

“Guys on Ice”: Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 7 p.m.

“Steel Magnolias”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 7 p.m.

★Comhaltas. Every Thurs. All invited to join members of this local chapter of the Detroit Irish Music Association for an informal evening playing traditional Irish music on various instruments. Lessons offered. 7:30-9:30 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. Free. 255-5310.

★“The Hermit Presidency”: U-M Ford Presidential Library. Politico senior staff writer Glenn Thrush argues that terrorism, 24/7 social media, insularity, and antagonism towards the press have driven the presidency deeper into the White House bubble and away from the American people. Reception follows. 7:30 p.m., Ford Library, 1000 Beal. Free. 205-0555.

Israeli Dancing: Jewish Community Center. Every Thurs. Dance instructor Cheryl Felt and DJ Amnon Steiner lead a variety of Israeli dances to recorded music. Easy dances and oldies the first hour, followed by intermediate dances and requests. Beginners welcome. New dances taught each week. Wear soft-soled shoes. 7:30-10 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$5 (students, free). 971-0990.

Tomasz Stańko: University Musical Society. See review, above. This legendary Polish jazz trumpeter, whose style is often described as dark and brooding, performs *Balladyna*, his 1975 album inspired by Juliusz Słowacki's 1839 tragedy about the rise and fall of a fictional Slavic queen. With saxophonist Tim Berne, bassist John Hebert, and drummer Jim Black. Stańko is also interviewed by U-M Near Eastern languages and civilizations professor Piotr Michałowski on Feb. 4 (5:30-7 p.m., UMMA auditorium, 525 S. State). The interview is this year's U-M Annual Copernicus Lecture. 7:30 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University. Tickets \$30 & \$40 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

“Currents & Crossings”: U-M Dance Company. Feb. 5-8. U-M dance students perform works by guest artist Richard Alston, a celebrated British choreographer renowned for his instinctive musicality and pure dance aesthetic whose company has created dances for a huge array of composers from Handel and Brahms to Stravinsky and Hoagy Carmichael. Tonight he presents *Brisk Singing*, a lyrical and

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Deliciously Dark

Film noir
at the Michigan

In Thomas Pynchon's novel *Inherent Vice*, set in 1970, the bumbling private eye Doc Sportello laments the pop-cultural demise of his profession: "... [A]ll you see anymore is cops, the tube is saturated with fucking cop shows, just being regular guys, only tryin' to do their job, folks, no more threat to nobody's freedom than some dad in a sitcom ... Good-bye Johnny Stacato, welcome and while you're at it please kick my door down, Steve McGarrett."

Through Sportello, Pynchon articulates a cultural truth that holds true today and perhaps illustrates why cinephiles still foster a fondness for the kind of movies currently being spotlighted in the Michigan Theater's Noir Film Series. Film noir conjures a world where the visuals are (mostly) black-and-white, the characters' morals are (mostly) not, and the less-than-perfect archetype of the private eye is the closest you'll get to a hero. In *The Big Sleep* (screening February 16), Vivian Rutledge (Lauren Bacall) quips that she didn't know P.I.s actually existed, "except in books, or else they were greasy little men snooping around hotel corridors." Rutledge's unflattering description nonetheless fits Humphrey Bogart's Philip Marlowe in *The Big Sleep*, and many other noir private dicks, to a tee. They're imperfect and unglamorous men, more than susceptible to their vices, but still beholden to certain moral convictions that drive them to often self-destructive ends. And they operate almost entirely outside traditional authority structures; the police exist only to hinder an ongoing investigation or to take the cleanup call when it's over. Even when the investigating protagonist is not a private eye by trade, his sleuthing generally falls outside the established confines of the legal system. *The Killers* (screening February 23) features a dogged insurance investigator, and *The Big Heat* (screening April 6) follows a cop gone rogue.

One of the key reasons these stories still captivate us is that there's surprisingly little like them today. Modern movies have



gotten gorier, more profane, more sexually explicit—more "mature," by a certain definition of the word—but the majority are practically toothless when compared to noir's thematic implications. The do-gooding cops Pynchon bemoans deserve some role in media, of course, but they remain grossly overrepresented (and underdeveloped) on big and especially small screens to this day. The Motion Picture Production Code often nitpicked the sex and violence out of classic noirs, but ironically it usually left the truly subversive elements untouched. Many of the best noirs still stand as defiantly anti-authoritarian hymns to free agents struggling to do the right thing in a dark and messy world.

The handful of classic neo-noirs that have come since the genre's golden age have used the private eye archetype as a way to consider the contemporary value of free agency. Although 1982's *Blade Runner* (screening February 4 at the State Theater) sports a lot more spaceships than the average noir, the central question it poses fits the genre perfectly: does its potentially mechanical hero have free will, or is he just another cog in the machine surrounding him? The film never conclusively answers the question, and fans still debate the issue to this day. But more importantly, *Blade Runner* suggests that, regardless of the hero's origin, he can assert his free will if he's got the guts to do so. It's a conclusion that would satisfy Doc Sportello well enough, painted in the kind of deliciously gray tones that keep us coming back to these films.

The series runs through April 27.

—Patrick Dunn



OPEN HOUSES

Thursday, February 5
6:30-8:30 PM

Thursday, February 12
6:30-8:30 PM

Thursday, March 5
10:00 AM-2:00 PM

Sunday, March 15
1:00-4:00 PM

Thursday, April 30
10:00 AM-2:00 PM



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energetic 1997 dance set to excerpts of Jean-Philippe Rameau's opera *Les Boréades*. Also, works by U-M dance professors **Jessica Fogel**, **Sandra Torrijano**, and **Robin Wilson**. Fogel presents an excerpt from *Into the Wind*, her 2014 dance based upon the elemental force of wind—its mystery and invisibility, its congruence with our inner breath and spirit, its potential as a powerful energy source, and its ability to shape and transform. Wilson's *Bottletree Stories*, inspired by the African tradition of bottle trees, explores the stories and spirits released from the bottles as they are shattered in the wind, and Torrijano's *Travesía del Papalote*, set to a poem by Uruguayan poet Mario Benedetti, uses a kite as a metaphor to trace a rhythm of exile, departure, and hope. The Feb. 7 performance is preceded by a panel on "Transatlantic Connections: Restaging Richard Alston's *Choreography*" (6:45 p.m., Power Center Reception Room) with company members and a Q&A with Alston. 7:30 p.m. (Thurs.), 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), Power Center. Tickets \$22 & \$28 (students, \$10) in advance at the Michigan League and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

"Yellowman": Performance Network. See 1 Sunday, 7:30 p.m.

Derek Richards: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Feb. 5-7. Detroit native who now lives in Florida, Richards is known for his fast-paced stream of sarcastic, often hysterically livid observations about everything from phone solicitors and computers to Taco Bell and the experience of dating an exotic dancer. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 212 S. Fourth Ave. \$10 (Thurs.) & \$13 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$12 (Thurs.) & \$15 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

6 FRIDAY

★**Agility Trials: Ann Arbor Dog Training Club.** Feb. 6-8. Dog trainers lead their animals through an obstacle course and jumps of various heights. Spectators welcome. 8 a.m.-early afternoon, Canine Sports Recreation Center, 7275 W. Joy Rd., Dexter. Free to spectators. 995-2801.

★**"A Conversation with Ruth Bader Ginsburg": U-M Philosophy Department Tanner Lecture on Human Values.** Lecture by this U.S. Supreme Court Justice, who also answers some questions submitted by the public in advance at law.umich.edu/special/Questions/Pages/home.aspx. 10-11:30 a.m., Hill Auditorium. Free, but tickets required. If any remain, tickets are available to the general public beginning Feb. 2 in the Michigan Union Sophia B. Jones Room and beginning Feb. 3 via email to GinsburgConvo@umich.edu. 764-6285.

★**"Beyond Life/Not Life: A Feminist-Indigenous Reading of Cryopreservation Practice and Ethics": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender.** University of Texas anthropology professor Kim TallBear discusses the ethics of preserving biological samples of indigenous peoples' bodies. 3 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764-9537.

★**"Legible Sovereignities: Exhibiting Relevance in Native Museums": U-M Native American Studies.** Talk by University of Tennessee English professor Lisa King. 4 p.m., Michigan League Henderson Room. Free. 647-9535.

Note: Most educational documentaries are listed with the daily Events.

Ann Arbor Senior Center. FREE. 794-6250. 1320 Baldwin, 12:30-3 p.m.

Every Mon.: "Movie Matinee," with films TBA.

Center of Light "Conscious Movie Night." FREE. 330-5048. Center of Light, 200 Huronview Blvd. (off N. Main), 7 p.m.

Feb. 20: "The Straight Story" (David Lynch, 1999). Drama based on a true story about an elderly man who takes a long journey on a riding lawn mower to mend his relationship with his estranged brother.

Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. \$5 suggested donation. 327-0270. 704 Airport Blvd., 8 p.m.

Feb. 21: "Spiritual Cinema." Screening of a feature film or several shorts TBA with spiritual themes. Followed by discussion.

Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. FREE. 994-3387. Jewel Heart (1129 Oak Valley Dr. between Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. & Ellsworth), 7 p.m.

Feb. 27: "The Whale Rider" (Niki Caro, 2002). Despite the discouragement of her gruff and disapproving grandfather, a 12-year-old Maori girl, torn between the old ways and the new, sets about to prove that she is worthy to be a tribal leader. Followed by discussion.

Jewish Culture, Arts, & Education. \$10. 971-0990. Jewish Community Center, (2935 Birch Hollow Dr. off Stone School Rd. south of Packard), 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 7: "Fill the Void" (Rama Burshtein, 2012). Drama set in Tel Aviv's ultra-Orthodox Jewish community about an 18-year-old girl who has to decide whether or not to marry her recently deceased sister's husband. Hebrew, subtitles.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Unless there is a live show in the main theater, 2 or 3 different films are shown, usually twice, almost every night. For complete, updated schedules, see michtheater.org or call 668-TIME. Tickets (unless otherwise noted): \$10 (children under 12, students with ID, seniors age 55 & older, & U.S. veterans, \$8; MTF members, \$7.50; films before 6 p.m., \$7). Michigan Theater (unless otherwise noted), times TBA unless otherwise noted.

Feb. 1, 3, & 4: Sundance Shorts. A collection of the best animated (Feb. 1 matinee & Feb. 3) and live action (Feb. 1 eve. & Feb. 4) short films from the 2014 Sundance competition. \$10 in advance at Ticketmaster.com and all Ticketmaster outlets. To charge by phone, call (800) 745-3000. 4:30 p.m. (Feb. 1) & 7 p.m. (Feb. 1, 3, & 4).

Feb. 2: "Leave Her to Heaven" (John Stahl, 1945). A femme fatale entraps a husband and commits several crimes inspired by her insane jealousy over him. Gene Tierney, Cornel Wilde. 7 p.m.

Feb. 5: Sundance Film Festival. Official 2015 Sundance Festival screening and world premiere of *True Story*, Rupert Gold's drama about a disgraced *New York Times* reporter attempting to uncover the truth about an accused killer who has taken on the reporter's identity. Jonah Hill, James Franco, Felicity Jones. Followed by a Q&A with cast and crew members.

bers TBA. \$15 in advance at Ticketmaster.com, and all Ticketmaster outlets. To charge by phone, call (800) 745-3000. 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 8: "Charlie Chaplin Shorts." Classic silent comedy shorts. Kids under 12, free. 1:30 p.m.

Feb. 8: "Glen Campbell: I'll Be Me" (James Keach, 2014). Documentary about the 2011 farewell tour of country music legend Glen Campbell, who was struggling with Alzheimer's disease. Free, but preregistration required at illbemescreening.eventbrite.com. 7 p.m.

Feb. 9: "The Postman Always Rings Twice" (Tay Garnett, 1946). Noir classic adapted from the James M. Cain novel about a drifter and a beautiful young wife of the owner of the diner where he works who conspire to murder her much older husband. Lana Turner, John Garfield. Part of the Michigan Theater's Film Noir Series (see review, p. 54), along with *The Big Sleep* and *The Killers* (see listings below). 7 p.m.

Feb. 14: "Blue Hawaii" (Norman Taurog, 1961). Musical romantic comedy about a surfer who takes a job as a tour guide at his girlfriend's agency. Elvis Presley, Joan Blackman, Angela Lansbury. 7 p.m.

Feb. 15: "The American Rimpoché: A Tibetan Lama in the 21st Century" (Nikki Appino, 2014). Documentary about Ann Arbor-based Jewel Heart Buddhist Center founder Gelek Rimpoché, featuring interviews with Philip Glass, Donald Lopez, Robert Thurman, Richard Gere and many more.

Feb. 16: "The Big Sleep" (Howard Hawks, 1946). Classic mystery thriller adapted from Raymond Chandler's novel. Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall, Martha Vickers. 7 p.m.

Feb. 23: "The Killers" (Robert Siodmak, 1946). Loose adaptation of the Hemingway story about 2 hitmen who come to a small town to kill a former member of their gang. Burt Lancaster, Ava Gardner, Edmond O'Brien. 7 p.m.

Feb. 24: "Bridging the Gap: the Joe Dulin Story" (2008). Documentary, filmed over a 3-year period at Roberto Clemente High School, about the alternative high school's principal, who died last October. Proceeds benefit the Joseph & Yvonne Dulin Scholarship Fund. \$10 in advance at ticketweb.com and at the door. 7 p.m.

Feb. 25: "Contagion" (Steven Soderbergh, 2011). Drama about the pandemic spread of a mysterious virus and the efforts of medical researchers and public health officials to contain it. Followed by a talk by Centers for Disease Control global migration and quarantine director Martin Cetron. 7 p.m.

Feb. 27: "Fly Fishing Film Tour" An anthology of cutting-edge films aimed at both entertaining and educating outdoor enthusiasts. \$15; discounted tickets available at Schultz Outfitters (4 E. Cross, Ypsilanti). 7 p.m.

State Theater. For complete, updated schedule, see michtheater.org or call 761-8667. Tickets (unless otherwise noted): \$10 (children under 12, students with ID, seniors age 55 & older, & U.S. veterans, \$8; MTF members, \$7.50; films before 6 p.m. & midnight movies, \$7).

Shabbat observance with songs, candle lighting, wine and challah, and discussion on a theme TBA. Children welcome. 6:30-9 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$10 (family, \$25). Reservations required at jewishculturalsociety.org. 975-9872.

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All invited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joyous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual traditions. 7-9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. \$5 requested donation. 663-2037.

★Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department. Readings by U-M creative writing grad students, including fiction writer Colin Corrigan and poet Autumn Lynch. 7 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 615-3710.

★"Community Sing": First Presbyterian Church. The renowned 89-year-old Boston-bred composer, arranger, and conductor Alice Parker, who is best known for her arrangements with Robert Shaw of folksongs, hymns, and spirituals that have found their way into the repertoire of choruses around the world, leads an evening of unaccompanied audience singing. 7 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662-4466.

Great Lakes Region Quarterfinals: International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella. Eight a cappella ensembles—including 6 U-M teams—compete for the chance to move on to the semifinals. 7 p.m., Skyline High School, 2552 N. Maple. Tickets \$20 (students, \$18; Skyline students, \$15) in advance at Varsityvocals.com.

"The Birthday Party": EMU Theater Department. Feb. 6-8 & 12-15. EMU theater lecturer Jennifer Graham directs EMU drama students in one of

Jan. 30 & Feb. 1-6: "A Most Violent Year" (J.C. Chandor, 2014). Crime drama, set in 1981 NYC, about an immigrant and his family trying to expand their business and capitalize on opportunities as rampant violence, decay, and corruption threaten to destroy all they have built. Oscar Isaac, Jessica Chastain.

Feb. 4: "Blade Runner" (Ridley Scott, 1982). Renowned sci-fi cult classic about a former cop who battles a group of mutinous androids in a dark, decaying L.A. circa 2019. Harrison Ford. 7 p.m.

Feb. 7: "Purple Rain" (Albert Magnoli, 1984). Musical about an aspiring young Minneapolis musician with a troubled home life and a new girlfriend. Prince, Apollonia Kotero, Morris Day. Midnight.

Feb. 21: "FernGully: The Last Rain Forest" (Bill Kroyer, 1992). Animated fantasy about a rainforest fairy whose world is threatened by encroaching humans. Midnight.

Feb. 24: "Internet Cat Video Festival." The Walker Art Center (Minneapolis) has curated this debut offline celebration of online cat videos, ranging from 6-second Vine videos to short films. 7 p.m.

U-M Islamic Studies Central Asia Film Series. FREE. 936-2777.

Feb. 22: "Song from the Southern Seas (Pesn' Juzhnykh Morej)" (Marat Sarulu, 2008). Gritty, compassionately humorous tale, set in a beautiful yet semi-desolate region of the Great Steppe. Two couples, one Russian and one Kazakh, live side by side in relative harmony until the fair-skinned Russians give birth to a boy of decidedly darker skin. Russian, subtitles. Rackham Amphitheatre. 4 p.m.

U-M Japanese Animation Film Society. U-M campus admission policy: no one under 18 admitted without an adult. FREE. umichanime.com. 2435 North Quad (105 S. State), 6-11:30 p.m.

Feb. 14 (tentative): "Animania." Monthly anime-athon of episodes from Japanese TV series. Also, Japanese food and student presentations on topics relating to Japanese culture.

U-M Nam Center for Korean Studies "Korean Cinema NOW." Korean, subtitles. FREE. 764-1825. Michigan Theater, 2 p.m.

Feb. 14: "The Divine Move" (Beom-gu Cho, 2014). A professional baduk player infiltrates an underground gambling scene to avenge his brother's death.

Feb. 21: "Kundo: Age of the Rampant" (Jong-bin Yun, 2014). Action film set in 19th-century Joseon about a power struggle between unjust noblemen and righteous outlaws.

WCBN-FM. FREE admission. 763-3500. Arbor Brewing Company (114 E. Washington), 8:30 p.m.

Feb. 10: "Negativland: Our Favorite Things" (Negativland, 2007). DVD compilation of a cappella doo-wop covers of 20 songs by the veteran San Francisco avant-garde sound collage ensemble Negativland, animated by 20 different artists.

Harold Pinter's most disturbing plays, a somewhat surreal, unremittingly menacing drama about a temperamental ex-pianist who lives comfortably as the sole boarder in a seedy resort, where he is attended by vaguely parental hosts. Celebrating his birthday, he is visited by 2 mysterious gentlemen, who he senses have come to take him away. During the course of the play he grows steadily less human, eventually losing his ability to speak or move. Recommended for audiences age 13 & up. 7 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat.) & 2 p.m. (Sun.), EMU Sponberg Theater, Ford St. (off Lowell from Huron River Dr.), Ypsilanti. Tickets \$15 (students, \$7) in advance and at the door. 487-2282.

"Rock the 80s Skate": Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation. All invited to wear spandex and skate to hair bands and monster ballads. Prizes for best costume. 7:15-8:45 p.m., Buhr Park Ice Rink, 2751 Packard. \$6 (youths age 17 & under and seniors age 60 & over, \$5). \$1 discount for city residents. Skate rentals available (\$3). 794-6235.

★Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor. Feb. 6 & 20. All invited to join an ongoing discussion of Steiner's *According to Luke: The Gospel of Passion and Love Revealed*. Familiarity with Rudolf Steiner's basic ideas is helpful. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes. Free. 944-4903.

"Singin' in the Rain": Burns Park Players. Jan. 30 & 31 and Feb. 6 & 7. Burns Park Elementary School students, parents, and friends perform Betty Comden and Adolph Green's musical set in the 20s as silent films were yielding to "talkies." When a dim-bulb silent star finds her voice doesn't translate well to sound films, her costar figures out a way to dub in the voice of a fetching young woman who ultimately displaces her—in more ways than one. The show's

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971-4820 www.stoneschool.org

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★43rd Winter Carnival: Chelsea American Legion Post 31. Feb. 6-8. Three days of cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, and other winter fun (weather permitting) at Cavanaugh Lake. Also, a **euchre tournament** (\$5 entry fee; prizes on Fri. at 7 p.m., and a **Michigan wine tasting** (noon-3 p.m.) and **dancing** to classic and contemporary rock by the Manchester band **Star 69** (8:30-11:30 p.m.) on Sat. The weekend competitive **ice fishing derby** (weather permitting) runs 7 a.m.-5 p.m. (Sat.) & 7 a.m.-noon (Sun.). Refreshments, breakfasts, and lunches available. Raffle. 4 p.m.-midnight (Fri.), 7 a.m.-midnight (Sat.), & 7 a.m.-3 p.m. (Sun.), American Legion Hall, 1700 Ridge Rd. (off Cavanaugh Lake Rd. from Kalmbach Rd. north from I-94 exit 156), Chelsea. Free admission. 475-1964.

"Winter Evening at the Farm": Cobblestone Farm Association Fundraiser. Tours of the restored 1844 Ticknor-Campbell farmhouse, illuminated by candles, and period music by Cobblestone docents. Also, Beverly Larsen offers a lecture-demo on her 1880s sock-making machine, and Jane Carr cooks up a historic recipe on the wood-fired cast-iron stove. 5-9 p.m., Cobblestone Farm, 2781 Packard (next to Buhr Park). \$2 (kids, \$1; family, \$5; kids under 3, free). 794-8120.

"Brews, Brats, & the Brinery": Zingerman's Creamery. Representatives from Corridor Sausage (Detroit) and The Brinery (Ann Arbor), which makes sauerkraut and other fermented foods, discuss and offer taste samples of their products—paired with some Michigan beers. 6-8 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. \$30. 929-0500.

First Friday Shabbat: Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society. All invited for dinner, preceded by a brief



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better-known songs include "Lucky Star," "You Stepped Out of a Dream," and the title song. These shows almost always sell out. Stars Jeffrey Post, Allison Mertzman, Lisa Harris, Joel Swanson, Sally Pinnell, and Kari Becker. 7:30 p.m. (Jan. 30 & 31 and Feb. 6) & 2 p.m. (Feb. 7), Tappan Middle School auditorium, 2251 E. Stadium at Brockman. Tickets \$15 (Patron tickets, \$30) in advance at showtix4u.com and (if available) at the door. burnsparkplayers.org

"You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown": Huron High School Players. See 1 Sunday. 7:30 p.m.

★**EMU Symphony Orchestra:** EMU Music Department. Kevin Miller conducts this music student orchestra in a program TBA. 8 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★**Symphony Band:** U-M School of Music. Michael Haithcock conducts this ensemble of music majors in the premiere of Michael Daugherty's *Reflections on the Mississippi for Tuba and Band*, with Philadelphia Orchestra principal tuba (and U-M alum) Carol Jantsch. The program also includes Ricardo Lorenz's *El Muro* ("no walls"), Bernstein's *Candide Overture*, Vittorio Giannini's *Variations and Fugue*, and Grainger's *Three Miniatures*. Preceded at 7:15 p.m. by a discussion in the lower lobby on the program, with Lorenz, Daugherty, Jantsch, and Haithcock. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 615-3204.

Jennifer Koh: University Musical Society. Described as a "risk-taking, high-octane player" by *Strad*, this acclaimed New York-based violinist performs *Bach and Beyond, Part III*, the third in her series of programs that include Bach works alongside works by contemporary composers. Program: Bach's Sonata no. 2 in A minor and Sonata no. 3 in C major, Berio's *Sequenza VIII*, and Harbison's *For Violin Alone*—a work that was co-commissioned by the UMS. 8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets \$22-\$44 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

SONIA & disappear fear: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Acoustic folk-rock by this popular Baltimore band led by singer-songwriter Sonia Rutstein. Flavored with elements of country, blues, folk, and reggae, its music ranges from passionate love songs to political ballads. Desserts & coffee available. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. \$15 (kids age 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 662-4536, 665-8558.

★**Angell Hall Observatory Open House:** U-M Student Astronomical Society. Feb. 6 & 20. All invited to peer through the telescopes in the observatory and on the Angell Hall roof and to view shows in the planetarium. Also, short astronomy presentations by club members. 8-10 p.m., 5th-floor rooftop observatory, Angell Hall (enter through Haven Hall on the Diag side of the building). Free. 764-3440.

"Wine, Women, and Song XIII": Kerrytown Concert House. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"Currents & Crossings": U-M Dance Company. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Guys on Ice": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"Tick, Tick ... Boom!": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"Steel Magnolias": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"Yellowman": Performance Network. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Derek Richards: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Friday Night Swing (& Blues)": Ann Arbor Swing Dance Association/Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Every Fri. Lindy hop, East Coast swing, Charleston, and Balboa dancing to music spun by DJs. Followed at 11:30 p.m. by blues dancing. No partner needed. Preceded at 8 p.m. by beginning lessons. 9 p.m.-1:30 a.m., Phoenix Center, 220 S. Main. \$5 (students with ID, \$4; \$1 discount for AACTMAD members) includes lessons. 417-9857.

7 SATURDAY

★**Great Lakes National Ocean Sciences Bowl:** Michigan Sea Grant. High school students compete in quiz bowl-style rounds of questions about ocean and Great Lakes biology, chemistry, geology, physics, technology, history, and economics. 8 a.m.-5 p.m., U-M Dana Bldg., 440 Church. Free. 214-4237.

★**"How Immigration Policies Affect Families in Washtenaw County":** Gray Panthers of Huron Valley. Talk by U-M social work professor Laura Sanders. Followed by discussion. Refreshments. The program begins with coffee & socializing. 9:45 a.m.-noon, U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 973-5593.

★**Saturday Morning Border to Border Ride:** Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Sat. 22-mile

ride, at various paces along the Border-to-Border Trail, from Ann Arbor to Ypsilanti, to decide where to eat lunch. 10 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 662-0205.

★**"U Play Pop Up":** The U Play School/Maker Works. Hands-on tinkering activities for families with kids. Geared toward kids ages 3-6. Also, tours of the maker space at Maker Works. 10 a.m.-noon, Maker Works, 3765 Plaza Dr. Free, but donations accepted (\$5 suggested). Theubuntuschool.com

★**"Recycled Paper-Making Craft":** Ecology Center of Ann Arbor. All invited to re-make paper to fashion a handcrafted valentine. Followed by guided tours of the city's recycling center; close-toed shoes and long pants required for the tour. 10 & 11 a.m., Materials Recovery Facility, 4120 Platt Rd. Free. Preregistration required for groups of 5 or more. 663-9474.

★**"Winter Polish Pottery Party":** Downtown Home & Garden. Display of a wide range of fine Polish ceramics from the renowned pottery-making town of Boleslawiec, with Polish pottery experts on hand to discuss the history of this centuries-old tradition. Also, taste samples of an array of traditional Polish cuisine. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Downtown Home & Garden, 210 S. Ashley. Free. 662-8122.

★**"Pollinators and Native Plantings":** Project Grow. Washtenaw County naturalist Shawn Severance discusses how to design a beautiful pollinator garden to attract beneficial insects, support native biodiversity, and boost crop production. 10 a.m.-noon, County Farm Park, Medford Rd. entrance. \$5. Preregistration required. 996-3169.

★**"Using Yoga to Reduce Stress and Improve Sleep":** Ann Arbor District Library. Yoga teacher Victoria Duranona leads a yoga workout for adults & teens in grade 6 & up. Bring a towel or mat and dress comfortably. 10-11:30 a.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

★**"Saturday Morning Physics":** U-M Physics Department. Feb. 7, 14, & 21. Popular series of talks, aimed at general audiences, by U-M scholars. Feb. 7: "Accretion Power in Astrophysics: Gravity Goes to Work." Astronomy professor Jon Miller discusses the basics of accretion, the elegant interplay of gravitation and electromagnetism, and how scientists study it. Feb. 14: "Surfing the Universe." Math professor Lydia Bieri discusses gravitational waves and the "footprints" they leave in space/time. Feb. 21: "Hail to the Data: What We're Learning from Learning Analytics." Physics professor Timothy McKay discusses the information gathered from new technologies that mediate the interactions between teachers and students. 10:30 a.m., 170 Denison, 500 Church. Free. 764-4437.

★**Children's Storytime:** Barnes & Noble. Every Sat. Storytelling programs and occasional craft activities for kids age 3 & up. 11 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

★**Storytime:** Literati Bookstore. Every Sat. 15-minute storytime geared toward very young children. 11 a.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

★**"Live! Birds of Prey":** Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. Howell Nature Center representatives present a program on birds of prey that includes displays of live hawks, owls, falcons, and vultures. 11 a.m., Hudson Mills activity center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. \$5 (kids, \$3). Preregistration required. \$5 vehicle entrance fee. 426-8211.

★**"Bug Brains and Neurobiology":** U-M Natural History Museum. Every Sat. & Sun., Feb. 7-22. Hands-on 20-minute interactive demo exploring what the brains of Drosophila flies and other organisms reveal about genetics and neural functions. Geared toward adults and kids age 5 & up. 11 a.m. (Sat.) & 3 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764-0478.

★**"Storytime at the Museum":** UMMA. U-M student docents and UMMA staffers read stories related to the art on display. Followed by an art activity. For kids ages 4-7 accompanied by a parent. Siblings welcome. 11:15 a.m.-noon, UMMA (meet in front of the museum store), 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★**U-M Natural History Museum Planetarium.** Every Sat. & Sun. beginning Feb. 7. Three different audiovisual planetarium shows. *The Sky Tonight* (Sat. 11:30 a.m., Sat. & Sun. 1:30 & 3:30 p.m.) is an exploration of the current night sky. *Expanded View* (Sat. 12:30 p.m.) is an exploration of deep space objects through the eyes of the Hubble, Spitzer, and Chandra space telescopes, each of which operates in different parts of the electromagnetic spectrum. *Sunstruck* (Sat. & Sun. 2:30 p.m.) is an audiovisual show about the composition and nature of the Sun and the various ways it affects the Earth. Various times, U-M Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. \$5. 764-0478.

★**Draw Doubles:** Local 101 Disc Golf Club. Every Sat. All invited to play disc golf at one of Hudson

Mills Metropark's 24-hole courses. Beginners are paired with advanced players to create parity. Prizes. Discs can be borrowed at park office. Noon, Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Rd.), Dexter. \$7 per player; free for spectators. \$5 vehicle entrance fee. 449-4300.

★**"Yarn-Wrapped Wire Words":** Ann Arbor District Library. Craft activity for 3rd-graders through adults. 2-3 p.m., AADL Mallets Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-8301.

★**"Up Close: An Introduction to Korean Classical Music":** Ann Arbor District Library. Seoul National University of Education music professor Kyoung Sun Cho and Gyeongin National University of Education music professor Seungmi Suh present a lecture-demo introducing traditional Korean music and instruments, including the *geomungo*, a zither played by plucking the silk strings on a long board with a bamboo pick, and the *daegeum*, a bamboo flute with a reed that produces a unique timbre. An instrumental petting zoo features several instruments from the U-M Stearns Collection for audience members to try. In conjunction with the Feb. 8 "East meet East" concert (see listing). 2-3:30 p.m., AADL 4th-floor meeting room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★**"Singin' in the Rain":** Burns Park Players. See 6 Friday. 2 p.m.

★**Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Club.** Every Sat. All invited to practice their juggling skills. Beginners welcome. Indoor location TBA in case of inclement weather. 2:30-5 p.m., U-M Diag. Free. 761-1115.

★**"Strum & Drum":** Oz's Music Environment. Every Sat. Families invited to get on stage to sing and make music on a variety of instruments. Also, at 4 p.m. on Feb. 7 only, a free Kids Open Stage. 3-4 p.m., Oz's, 1920 Packard. \$15 per family. 662-8283.

★**Pittsfield Open Band:** Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. All musicians invited for a contra dance music open jam. Bring Judi Morningstar's *The Ruffwater Fakebook*, Susan Songer's *The Portland Collection*, and Bill Matthiesen's *The Waltz Book* if you have them. 3-6 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. Free. 994-9307.

★**Piano Exchange Concert:** U-M School of Music. Performances by Eastman School of Music students. 5:30 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615-3204.

★**"Kids Night Out!":** Jewish Community Center. All kids in grades K-5 invited for a pizza dinner and dessert, games, craft activities, and a screening of a movie TBA. 6-10 p.m., JCC gym, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$25 (JCC members, \$20). Reservations required. 971-0990.

★**Fasching Dinner/Dance:** Greater Beneficial Union Chapter 630. Traditional German dinner (sauerbraten, spätzle, red cabbage, tossed salad, and bread), followed by dancing to traditional German music by the popular Sorgenbrecher Band. Raffle and costume contest with prizes. Coffee, cake, beer, wine, and pop. Fasching is the German equivalent of Mardi Gras. 6-11 p.m., Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. \$25. Reservations required by Feb. 5 via phone call to Klaus Kummer at 913-9371 or Marianne Rauer at 954-0057.

★**U-M Men's Gymnastics vs. Stanford.** 7 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, S. State at Hoover. \$6. 763-2159.

★**27th Annual "Big Rack Night."** This annual contest for white-tailed deer hunters attracts around 400 people. The top award winners in the firearms, archery, muzzle loading, ladies, and youth divisions are invited to go onstage, display their antlers, and swap hunting stories. Also, talks by guest speakers with unusual or outstanding racks. Additional overall prize for "biggest rack" (number, size, and mass of points on the 2 horns). Light dinner for sale. 7 p.m. (doors open 5 p.m.), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free admission. 439-7919.

★**Andrew Anderson.** An accomplished accompanist, chamber musician, and soloist, this veteran local pianist presents "An Evening of the Music of Chopin," featuring music in most of the genres in which he wrote. The program includes the placid Andante Spianato with its exuberant Grand Polonaise Brillante, the intimate Berceuse (cradle song), the glorious Barcolle, and the great Sonata no. 2, along with some etudes, nocturnes, ballades, mazurkas, polonaises, scherzos, and valses. 7 p.m., Faber Piano Institute, 3042 Creek Dr. (off Packard just east of Platt). \$10 (students & seniors, \$5) suggested donation. 665-7346.

★**"The Birthday Party":** EMU Theater Department. See 6 Friday. 7 p.m.

★**"You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown":** Huron High School Players. See 1 Sunday. 7:30 p.m.

"Drum 4 Wellness Circle": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. All invited to join a drum circle. Bring a drum or use one provided. 7:30-9 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. \$5 suggested donation. 480-1219.

"Sacred Jazz Music": First United Methodist Church. Renowned composer-pianist Bradley So-wash leads the church's chancel choir, vocal staff, and instrumental ensemble in a program of spirited jazz arrangements of sacred music. Reception follows. The concert is preceded, 5-7 p.m., by an **International Boutique**, with sale of artworks and crafts from Ten Thousand Villages, and at 6 p.m. by a **New Orleans-style Dinner** (\$15; students, \$8; family, \$40; kids under 5, free). 7:30 p.m., FUMC, 120 S. State. Free will offering. 662-4536, ext. 0.

1st Saturday Contra: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Steve Loftus calls contras and dances from Australia. With live music by Debbie Jackson and Brad Battey. All dances taught; no partner needed. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes. Silent auction. Preceded at 5:30 p.m. by a pot-luck. 8-11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. \$10 (members, \$9; students, \$5). 769-1052.

***"Well-Behaved Women Seldom Make History":** U-M School of Music. Soprano (and U-M voice professor) Martha Sheil performs art songs and operatic works that explore the perspectives of his-torical and literary women, including Eve, Cleopa-tra, Salome, Mary Queen of Scots, Anne of Cleves, Anne Boleyn, Calamity Jane, and Maria Callas. Ac-companists are U-M opera coach and pianist Kath-leen Kelley and pianists Matthew Thompson and Justin Snyder. Also, actor Gillian Eaton performs a monologue from *Antony and Cleopatra*. 8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 615-3204.

***"Kamikaze Theater":** U-M Residential College Players. RC students present an original play that has been conceived, written, and rehearsed within the past 24 hours. 8 p.m., 1324 East Hall, 530 Church. Free. 647-4354.

"Milonga Picante": U-M Michigan Argentine Tango Club. Feb. 7 & 21. Tango dancing to music spun by a DJ. 8 p.m.-midnight, Michigan League Vandenberg Room (Feb. 7) & Michigan Union An-derson Room (Feb. 21). \$10 (members, \$5). umich.edu/~matc

"Wine, Women, and Song XIII": Kerrytown Con-cert House. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"Currents & Crossings": U-M Dance Company. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Tick, Tick ... Boom!": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 1 Sunday. 2 & 8 p.m.

"Guys on Ice": Encore Musical Theatre Compa-ny. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Steel Magnolias": Purple Rose Theatre Com-pany. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Yellowman": Performance Network. See 1 Sun-day. 3 & 8 p.m.

Derek Richards: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Serious about Salsa" Latin Dance Party: Dance Revolution. Feb. 7 & 21 (tentative). High-energy dance party with salsa, merengue, bachata, and cha-cha dancing to music spun by a DJ. No partner neces-sary. Preceded by beginner (7 p.m.) and advanced (8 p.m.) salsa lessons. 9 p.m.-1 a.m., Phoenix Center, 220 S. Main (above Elmo's). \$12 (students with ID, \$8). facebook.com/A2DanceRevolution/info

8 SUNDAY

***"Behind the Scenes Day":** U-M Ruthven Muse-ums. A rare chance to explore the inner workings of the 4 Ruthven museums—natural history, anthropol-ogy, paleontology, and zoology. Noon-5 p.m., 2009 Ruthven Museums, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. Guided tour space limited; reservations recom-mended by calling 936-5834. 764-0478.

"Comparative Cupping": Zingerman's Coffee Company. Zingerman's Coffee staff offer taste sam-ples of coffees from around the world using the tools and techniques of professional tasters. 1-3 p.m., Zingerman's Coffee Company, 3723 Plaza Dr. \$20. 929-6060.

***"Dancing Babies":** Ann Arbor District Library. Music Together teacher Dianne Dudley leads infants through 5-year-olds (accompanied by an adult) in a program of music and dancing. 1-1:40 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (be-tween Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-8301.

***"Make a Valentine Card":** Ann Arbor District Library. All kids in grades K-5 invited to make a valentine card for a loved one or to share with a lo-cal hospital. 1-2 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-8301.

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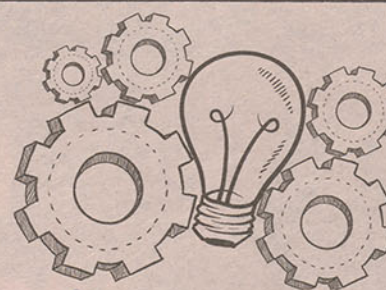
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School Tours
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High School

School Tours
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★**Shape Note Singing: Ann Arbor Sacred Harp.** All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Sacred Harp songbooks available, but singers encouraged to bring their own. 1-4 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free, but donations accepted for music scholarships. 678-7549, 761-1451.

★**U-M Women's Basketball vs. Rutgers.** The U-M also has games this month against Northwestern (Feb. 14, 2 p.m.), Indiana (Feb. 18, 7 p.m.), and Purdue (Feb. 24, 7 p.m.). 2 p.m., Crisler Center. \$3-\$8. 764-0247.

★**"Winter Tree Identification": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads a hike to learn how to identify trees by their bark, buds, habitat, and other clues. 2-4 p.m., Scio Woods Preserve, north side of Scio Church Rd. west of Wagner. Free. 971-6337, ext. 334.

★**"Orchid Growing": Ann Arbor Orchid Society.** AAOS members demonstrate how to pot, divide, and care for orchids. Orchids available for a nominal cost. 2-5 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. AnnArborOrchids@aol.com

★**"Medicinal Plants and Gardens": UMMA.** Docent-led tour of the current exhibit of rarely seen dried and pressed medicinal plants. In celebration of the upcoming opening of the new Medicinal Garden at U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. 2-3 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★**"Open Play for Children with Autism": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids with autism in grade 5 & under (accompanied by an adult) invited to pet therapy dogs or find a quiet place to play with a variety of toys. Local developmental and behavioral pediatrician Rick Solomon is on hand to chat with parents and their kids. 2-4 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

★**"Currents & Crossings": U-M Dance Company.** See 5 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**"Tick, Tick ... Boom!": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre.** See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

★**"The Birthday Party": EMU Theater Department.** See 6 Friday. 2 p.m.

★**"Steel Magnolias": Purple Rose Theatre Company.** See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

★**"Yellowman": Performance Network.** See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

★**"Guys on Ice": Encore Musical Theatre Company.** See 1 Sunday. 3 p.m.

★**"Music of Strings and Wind from Korea: East Meets East": U-M Nam Center for Korean Studies/U-M Confucius Institute.** Korean visiting scholars Kyoung Sun Cho and Seungmi Suh perform traditional East Asian music on *geomungo* (zither played with a bamboo pick) and *daegeum* (bamboo flute). With Central Conservatory of Music (China) professor Liu Yuening on *yangqin* (Chinese dulcimer). Preceded on Feb. 7 by a lecture on Korean classical music at the Ann Arbor District Library downtown branch (see listing). 3:30 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764-1825.

★**"Secret Winter Garden Dinner": Zingerman's Cornman Farms.** Zingerman's Roadhouse chef Alex Young hosts a family-style dinner featuring winter produce from the greenhouse and hoophouse of the farm that supplies the Roadhouse, along with salt-cured whitefish, venison, pork belly, sauerkraut, and winter-dug Jerusalem artichokes. Dinner is preceded by a winter cocktail and a talk by Cornman Farm produce manager Mark Baerwolf. 4-9 p.m., Cornman Farms, 8540 Island Lake Rd., Dexter. \$75. Reservations required. 619-8100.

★**Booked for Murder Mystery Book Club.** All invited to discuss 2 mysteries: Mons Kallentoft's *Midwinter Blood*, set in rural Sweden, concerns a young cop, divorced with a teenage daughter, who tries to track down a killer who left his victim hanging from a tree in the middle of a frozen plain. Andrea Portes's *Bury This* is about the unsolved murder of a young girl in small-town Michigan in 1979. 4:30 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 769-2149.

★**"The City and the Pillar": Rainbow Book Club.** All invited to join a discussion of Gore Vidal's landmark 1946 novel about a young man exploring his homosexuality. 4:30-6 p.m., Jim Toy Community Center, 325 Braun Ct. Free. lorrelsu@hotmail.com

★**"Explore Nepal and Trek to Mt. Everest": The Himalayan Bazaar.** Screening of a travel video about Buddhist and Hindu cultures in Kathmandu, trekking through Himalayan villages to the Mt. Everest base camp, and riding an elephant through the Chitwan National Park in search of elusive Bengal tigers. 5:30 p.m., Himalayan Bazaar, 218 S. Main. Free. 997-7229.

★**"Ann Arbor (Mostly) Acoustic Jam": Ann Arbor Senior Center.** Feb. 8 & 22. All singers, acoustic &

electric guitarists, bassists, mandolinists, banjoists, ukulele players, percussionists, keyboardists, and other musicians invited to join organizer Michael Niemi to play folk, rock, country, or original tunes. Bring a music stand and copies of sheet music. Listeners welcome. 7-9 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$2 (members, free). Preregistration required for musicians at meetup.com/Ann-Arbor-Acoustic-Jam. 794-6250.

★**University Symphony Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** This ensemble of music majors performs world premieres of works by student composers. 7 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 615-3204.

★**Ballroom Dance Club at the U-M.** Feb. 8, 15, & 22. Ballroom dancing to recorded music, including fox-trots, waltzes, cha-chas, rumbas, tangos, swing, and more. No partner necessary. Preceded at 7 p.m. by beginning lessons and practice. 8-10 p.m., Michigan Union Rogel Ballroom. \$5 (\$10 includes lessons). 763-6984.

★**Bright Sheng & the Evita Quartet: U-M School of Music.** U-M composition professor and pianist Sheng is joined by a string quartet of U-M music grad students in Mozart's String Quartet no. 17, Sheng's *Dance Capriccio*, and Dvorak's Quintet in A major. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615-3204.

9 MONDAY

★**"Jews and the Roman Empire: Beyond Resistance/Accommodation Paradigm Symposium": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies.** Talks by U-M scholars. 2-6 p.m., U-M Kelsey Museum, 434 S. State. Free. 763-9047.

★**"Rednecks, Queers, and Country Music": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender.** U-M women's studies professor Nadine Hubbs, musicology professor Charles Garrett, sociology professor Karyn Lacy, and anthropology professor Gayle Rubin discuss Hubbs' new study of the ways class and gender identity play out in country music. 4 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764-9537.

★**Miguel Algarin: U-M Latina/o Studies.** Reading, with accompaniment by a Detroit musician TBA, by this influential Puerto Rican poet, a retired Rutgers University English professor who cofounded the Nuyorican Poets Café. He is also the first English translator of Neruda's *Songs of Protest*. 4 p.m., Michigan League Henderson Room. Free. 647-9535.

★**"Geek Sublime": U-M Institute for the Humanities Marc & Constance Jacobson Lecture.** The acclaimed Indian-American novelist (and computer programmer) Vikram Chandra discusses his new memoir exploring the connections and tensions between poetry and computer programming. Reception follows; signing. 5 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 936-3518.

★**Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild.** Members give tips and techniques for creating garments, wall pieces, surface designs, and other fiberart works. Small-group discussion. The program begins with socializing. 6:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. \$5 (members, free). AnnArborFiberartsGuild.org

★**"The Siege of Petersburg: Second Hatcher's Run and the Hampton Roads Peace Conference": Ann Arbor Civil War Round Table.** Lecture by amateur Civil War researcher Jim Epperson. 7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Administrative Bldg. Education Center Exhibition Room, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off McAuley Dr. from Huron River Dr.). Free. (517) 750-2741.

★**Concert Band: U-M School of Music.** Courtney Snyder and John Pasquale conduct this ensemble of music majors in Gabrieli's *Canzon Primi Toni* and Salfelder's *Cathedrals*, a reimagining of Gabrieli's work. The program also includes two modern lullaby's by Bassett and Turrin, Nelson's bright and colorful *Aspen Jubilee*, Mendelssohn's *Notturmo* op. 24, Hindemith's *Symphony in B-flat major*, and Shostakovich's youthful *Folk Dances*. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 615-3204.

★**"Piano Lounge Night with Ann Dahl": The Mix Studio Theater.** Feb. 9 & 23. Performance by singer-pianist Dahl and musician friends of hers. Followed by a chance for audience members to sing with Dahl accompanying. 8 p.m., Mix Studio Theater, 8 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. Tip jar donation. 985-0875.

10 TUESDAY

★**"Sensation Stations": Ann Arbor District Library.** All toddlers ages 18 months-3 years invited to drop in to engage their senses by scooping, pouring, squeezing, and shaking a variety of materials. 10:30-11:30 a.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-8301.

★**String Showcase: U-M School of Music.** Outstanding string students perform solo and ensemble

chamber works. 4 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615-3204.

★**"Informed Storytelling: Beyond the Facts":** U-M Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies. Talk by NYC photographer Misha Friedman, a native of the former Moldovan S.S.R. whose exhibit *Photo 51: Is Corruption in Russia's DNA* will be at the Work Gallery this spring. 5:30-7 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0351.

★**"All about Beekeeping":** Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers. Club members discuss beekeeping topics TBA. The program begins with an informal Q&A. 6:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. meghanom@gmail.com, 647-7600.

★**"Chanel No. 5: The Art & Science Behind a Timeless Perfume":** Ann Arbor District Library. Talk (with fragrance samples) by local flavor and fragrance expert Michelle Krell Kydd, creator of the award-winning smell and taste blog Glass Petal Smoke. For adults and teens in grade 6 & up. 6:30-8:45 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★**"Through Death to Life":** Ann Arbor District Library. Bloomfield Hills resident Ron Gries discusses his memoir, a mix of free verse poetry and prose, written over the last 3 years of his wife's illness and death and for 14 months after she grieves and heals. 6:30-8 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4555.

★**Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group:** U-M English Department. All age 21 & over invited to discuss *Left Hand of Darkness*, Ursula Le Guin's groundbreaking 1965 sci-fi novel about a peaceful planet of "ambisexual" citizens. 7-9 p.m., 3184 Angell Hall. Free. 764-2553.

★**"The Incidental Steward: Reflections on Citizen Science":** Sierra Club Book Club. All invited to discuss Akiko Busch's book on volunteer scientific researchers. 7:30 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971-1157.

11 WEDNESDAY

★**"Large Corporations and the Future of American Democracy":** U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Distinguished Lecture Series. Talk by U-M sociology and business administration professor Mark Mizuchi. Sixth in a series of 9 monthly lectures. 10-11:30 a.m., Rave Cinema, 4100 Carpenter. \$65 (members, \$45) for the 9-lecture series. Memberships are \$20 a year. \$10 per lecture for members. 998-9351.

★**Noon Lectures:** U-M Center for Russian, East European, & Eurasian Studies. Feb. 11 & 25. Bring a bag lunch, if you like. Feb. 11: Higher School of Economics (St. Petersburg) anthropology and religious studies professor Jeanne Kormina discusses "The Political Imagination of Russian Orthodoxy: National Identity and Imperial Heritage." Feb. 25: Brown University sociology and international studies professor Michael Kennedy on "Globalizing Knowledge with Michigan, Polish, Kosovar, and Ukrainian Accents." Noon-1:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-0351.

★**Brown Bag Recital Series:** U-M School of Music. 30-minute concert by local pianist Pamela Ruiter-Feenstra and soprano Mee Ae Nam. Bring a bag lunch, if you wish; food available at the Crossroads Café. 12:15 p.m., U-M SPH Community Room, 109 S. Observatory. Free. 615-3204.

★**"Charting the Wolverine":** U-M Hatcher Grad Library. Artist Elaine Wilson discusses the current exhibit of her illustrations and paintings that were inspired by the train route from Ann Arbor to Chicago. 4-7 p.m., Hatcher Grad Library 2nd floor (Clark Library), enter from the Diag. Free. 647-0646.

★**Shirley Verrett Awards Ceremony 2015:** U-M Center for the Education of Women. Performances by acclaimed opera singer Marcia Porter and poet Zilka Joseph. In honor of this year's award winner, well-known Caribbean poet (and U-M English professor emerita) Lorna Goodison, who reads a poem in honor of Shirley Verrett, the late internationally acclaimed opera singer who was a U-M voice professor. 5:30-6:30 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. willsds@umich.edu, 764-6005.

★**"Bad Blood":** U-M Authors Forum. U-M comparative literature, art history, and philosophy professor Daniel Herwitz and U-M English professor Linda Gregerson discuss *Heritage, Culture, and Politics in the Postcolony*, Herwitz's new book exploring the remaking of history as a consciously crafted heritage in contemporary South Africa, India, and America. 5:30-7 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. Free. 764-3166.

★**"Hop Heads":** Arbor Brewing Company Beer Tasting. A chance to sample and learn about some 2

dozen "hop bombs"—beers with an unusually heavy hop content. Also, a drawing for beer-related prizes. The price of admission includes unlimited beer sampling and a German appetizer buffet. 7-9 p.m., Arbor Brewing Company, 114 E. Washington. Tickets \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. 213-1393.

★**"Darwin: Books, Beetles, and Blasphemy":** Ann Arbor District Library. WCC biology professor David Wooten discusses his new book about the life and legacy of Darwin, as well as his collection of antique books published by Darwin (on display at the talk) and other historical publications that influenced Darwin in the formation of his theory of evolution. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★**"DIY Bath Bombs":** Ann Arbor District Library. Craft activity for adults and teens in grade 6 & up. 7-8 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-8301.

★**"An Evening of Poetry and Written Word":** Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. All invited to read and discuss their poetry or short stories. Bring about 6 copies of your work to share. 7-9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★**"A Tale for the Time Being":** 12th Annual Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads. Veteran novelist, filmmaker, and Zen Buddhist priest Ruth Ozeki reads from her critically acclaimed 2014 novel, the 2014 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads selection. The story is an inventive, beguiling blend of 2 narratives, one of a desperately lonely 16-year-old Tokyo girl contemplating a suicide and the other of a writer living in British Columbia who finds the Tokyo girl's diary washed up on shore some time after the 2011 tsunami that devastated Japan. Full of Ozeki's signature humor, the narrative is deeply engaged with the relationship between writer and reader, past and present, fact and fiction, quantum physics, history, and myth. Signing. 7-9 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.), Rackham Auditorium. Free. 327-4555.

★**"Steel Magnolias":** Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday, 2 & 7 p.m.

★**History Readers Group:** Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. Retired local social worker Myrna Lueck leads a discussion of Larry Tye's *Superman: The High-Flying History of America's Most Enduring Hero*. 7:30 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 369-2499.

★**"Comedy Jamm":** Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 4 Wednesday, 8 p.m.

12 THURSDAY

★**"Under the African Sky":** Wild Swan Theater. Feb. 12-14. This award-winning local children's theater presents a series of African folktales. With drumming and other music. Geared toward kids ages 4-10. As with all Wild Swan productions, the performance is interpreted in American Sign Language. Audio description and backstage "touch" tours are available by prearrangement for blind audience members. 10 a.m. (Feb. 12 & 13), noon (Feb. 13), & 11 a.m. (Feb. 14), WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets \$12 (seniors age 60 & over and kids, \$8; lap passes for kids age 2 & under, \$3) in advance at wildswantheater.org and at the door. 995-0530.

★**"A Corn Fest":** International Neighbors. All area women invited to sample some delicious corn dishes from around the world and explore a few facts about the origins and uses of corn. Refreshments. Nursery care provided for preschoolers. Also, a chance to sign up for club activity groups, including help with English. 1-2:30 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church social hall, 1500 Scio Church Rd. Free. 930-9962.

★**"Elizabeth Streb: How to Become an Extreme Action Hero":** U-M School of Art & Design Penny Stamps Speaker Series. Talk by this MacArthur "genius" award-winning choreographer who's known for her daring choreography. Streb is the subject of the 2014 documentary, *Born to Fly*. 5:10 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 764-9537.

★**Jean Valentine:** U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series. Reading by this National Book Award-winning poet, the current State Poet of New York. Her forthcoming collection, *Shirt in Heaven*, explores themes of elegy and memory and moves chronologically from childhood drawings and wartime memories to the present. "Valentine has a gift for tough strangeness, but also a dreamlike syntax and manner of arranging the lines of ... short poems so as to draw us into the doubleness and fluency of feelings," says a *New York Times Book Review* critic. Signing. 5:10 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. mslevad@umich.edu

★**"Phantom Masks & Opera":** Gratz Restaurant/Bellini Opera Theatre. Michigan-based Italy-born baritone Dino Valle directs local singers in favorite songs from *Phantom of the Opera*. 3-course dinner prepared by chef John Fischer. 6 & 8 p.m., Gratz,

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TOMASZ STAŃKO, TRUMPET

New Balladyna Quartet with
Tim Berne, saxophones
Thursday, February 5, 7:30 pm
Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre

John Hébert, bass
Jim Black, drums

The *New Yorker* proclaimed Polish trumpeter Tomasz Stańko "one of the most original and creative jazz trumpet players in the world." Inspired by early Ornette Coleman, Miles Davis, and John Coltrane, he was 20 when he formed his first band in 1962 and has been a jazz hero in Europe ever since.

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JENNIFER KOH, VIOLIN

Bach And Beyond, Part III
Friday, February 6, 8 pm
Rackham Auditorium

PROGRAM

Bach	Sonata No. 2 in a minor, BWV 1003
Berio	Sequenza VIII for Solo Violin
Harbison	For Violin Alone (UMS co-commission)
Bach	Sonata No. 3 in C Major, BWV 1005

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PRELUDE TO THE AFTERNOON OF A FOEHN

Sat-Sun, February 14-15, 2 pm, 5 pm & 7 pm
Thur-Fri, February 19-20, 7 pm & 9 pm
Saturday, February 21, 2 pm, 5 pm & 7 pm
Skyline High School Experimental Theater
2552 N. Maple Rd, Ann Arbor

This 25-minute theatrical marvel uses a simple wind turbine to create a vortex in which plastic bag characters evolve, responding to the movement of the air. Originally commissioned by the Natural History Museum of Nantes, *Prelude to the Afternoon of a Foehn* (a pun that refers to a mountain wind) transforms simple plastic bags into charming, graceful characters.



A UMS
Renegade Event

SUPPORTED BY THE

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Stuart Frankel

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Foundation Endowment Fund

MENDELSSOHN'S ELIJAH

UMS Choral Union
Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra
The Elm City Girls Choir
Jerry Blackstone, conductor
Saturday, February 14, 8 pm
Hill Auditorium

Julianna Di Giacomo, soprano
Susan Platts, mezzo-soprano
Nicholas Phan, tenor
Dean Peterson, bass-baritone

Mendelssohn's epic oratorio is a moving musical tribute to the prophet who was drawn up to Heaven in a whirlwind. Composed in the spirit of Bach and Handel, the work clearly reflects Mendelssohn's own genius, combining vivid and dramatic sound-pictures of oceans, earthquakes, fires, and the resurrection of the dead.

ENDOWED SUPPORT FROM THE
Richard and Lillian Ives Endowment Fund

JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER ORCHESTRA WITH WYNTON MARSALIS

Sunday, February 15, 4 pm
Hill Auditorium

A 2011 NEA Jazz Master, 2014 UMS Distinguished Artist Award recipient, and arguably the most influential jazz musician alive, trumpeter and composer Wynton Marsalis is an iconic figure in the evolution of the art form and a tireless advocate for jazz as America's classical music.

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and the Medical Community
Endowment Fund

ROTTERDAM PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Yannick Nézet-Séguin, conductor
Hélène Grimaud, piano
Thursday, February 19, 7:30 pm
Hill Auditorium

PROGRAM

Ravel	Suite from <i>Ma mère l'oye</i> ("Mother Goose")
Ravel	Piano Concerto in G Major
Tchaikovsky	Symphony No. 5 in e minor, Op. 64

HOSTED BY

Randall and Nancy Faber and the Faber Piano Institute and Ken and Penny Fischer

ENDOWED SUPPORT FROM THE

Mary R. Romig-deYoung Endowment Fund

50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

THE CAMPBELL BROTHERS PERFORM JOHN COLTRANE'S A LOVE SUPREME

Chuck Campbell, pedal steel guitar
Darick Campbell, lap steel
Phillip Campbell, electric guitar and bass
Friday, February 20, 8 pm
Michigan Theater

John Coltrane's seminal recording *A Love Supreme* celebrates its 50th birthday this year, and the Campbell Brothers revisit the spiritual work through the sacred steel tradition. Born of the ecstatic meeting of African-American gospel music and amplified steel guitar in the House of God Church, sacred steel is "every bit as earth-shattering as [Robert] Johnson's music was in the '30s."

HOSTED BY



TRISHA BROWN DANCE COMPANY

Diane Madden and Carolyn Lucas, associate artistic directors
Trisha Brown, founding artistic director
Saturday, February 21, 8 pm
Sunday, February 22, 2 pm
Power Center

PROGRAM

Set and Reset (1983)
Choreography by Trisha Brown | Music by Laurie Anderson | Set, costumes, and lighting by Robert Rauschenberg

If You Couldn't See Me (1994)
Choreography by Trisha Brown | Music and décor by Robert Rauschenberg

Newark (1987)
Choreography by Trisha Brown | Music by Peter Zummo | Set design and costumes by Donald Judd | Lighting by Ken Tabachnik



A UMS
Renegade Event



Post-performance
Q&A February 21

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NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON'S TREASURE ISLAND

Adapted by Bryony Lavery
Directed by Polly Findlay
Sunday, February 22, 3 pm
Michigan Theater

It's a dark, stormy night. The stars are out. Jim, the inn-keeper's granddaughter, opens the door to a terrifying stranger. Jim invites him in — and her dangerous voyage begins. Robert Louis Stevenson's story of murder, money, and mutiny is brought to life in a thrilling new stage adaptation by Bryony Lavery.

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★“City of Ann Arbor 2015 Sustainable Ann Arbor Forum: Economic Vitality”: Ann Arbor District Library. The 2nd in a series of 4 monthly forums with city staff and other panelists TBA features discussion of current economic development projects, community investment, and business development. Panelists are city environmental coordinator Matthew Naud, city planning manager Wendy Rampson, DDA planning & research specialist Amber Miller, city systems planner Connie Pulcifer, Locavorious founder Rena Basch, and Ann Arbor Area Foundation CEO Neel Hajra. 7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★“Four Perfect Pebbles”: Ann Arbor District Library. 80-year-old Holocaust survivor Marion Blumenthal Lazan, author of this 1996 memoir for young people about her family's struggle to survive the Nazi horrors, discusses the lessons of understanding and tolerance she learned from her experience as a young girl interned by the Nazis during WWII. For adults and youths in grade 4 & up. 7–8:30 p.m., AADL 4th-floor meeting room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

★“Story Night”: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild members host a storytelling program. Audience members are encouraged to bring a 5-minute story to tell. 7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★“Open Mike & Share with Scott Beal”: Bookbound. Local poet Beal, a Pushcart-winning U-M creative writing grad, reads from *Wait 'Til You Have Real Problems*, his recently published debut collection which deploys familiar characters from Rapunzel to Perseus and whimsically surreal tall tales to explore the varied and violent forces that shape human identities. MacArthur-winning poet and former U-M English professor Alice Fulton praises Beal's “revelatory” tales for their “surprising linguistic and narrative moves [that] elicit the unbidden traumas and dazzling weirdness of lived experience.” The program begins with open mike readings. Signing. 7 p.m., Bookbound, 1729 Plymouth, Courtyard Shops. Free. 369-4345.

★“Guys on Ice”: Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 7 p.m.

★“The Birthday Party”: EMU Theater Department. See 6 Friday. 7 p.m.

★“Steel Magnolias”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 7 p.m.

★“A Tribute to Love”: Washtenaw Community Concert Band. Chris Heidenreich conducts this 70-member ensemble in a program highlighted by a tribute to George Gershwin and Offenbach's *Orpheus in the Underworld Overture*. With guest trombonist (and U-M music professor) David Jackson. Refreshments. 7:30 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 475-8040.

★“Yellowman”: Performance Network. See 1 Sunday. 7:30 p.m.

★“Faith Is Not a Sideshow: Why You—and the U—Need to Get Religion”: U-M Veritas Forum. Lecture by New York Times columnist Ross Douthat. 8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. Veritasum.org

★Faculty Showcase: U-M School of Music. Performances by U-M music professors, including oboist Nancy Ambrose King, hornist Adam Unsworth, violinist Danielle Belen, saxophonist Andrew Bishop, baritone Daniel Washington, violinist Stephen Shipps, clarinetist Chad Burrow, sopranos Carmen Pelton and Caroline Helton, and pianists Cynthia Westphal, Martin Katz, Ellen Rowe, and Christopher Harding. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 11009 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615-3204.

Atomic: Kerrytown Concert House. This Scandinavian jazz ensemble is influenced both by American jazz greats such as Duke Ellington and Charles Mingus as well as European free jazz and improvisation. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15–\$30 (students, \$5) in advance at kerrytownconcerthouse.com, and (if available) at the door. Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

Lynn Koplitz: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Feb. 12–14. Popular Tennessee-bred stand-up comic known for her brassy, sassy, faux-ditz persona and her whimsically irreverent observations about relationships and everyday life. A frequent guest on TV shows, she also hosted the Food Network comedy show *How to Boil Water* and currently has a special in regular rotation on Comedy Central. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 212 S. Fourth Ave. \$11 (Thurs.) & \$15 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$13 (Thurs.) & \$17 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

13 FRIDAY

★“Under the African Sky”: Wild Swan Theater. See 12 Thursday. 10 a.m. & noon.

★“History of Elegy: The Politics of Commemoration in Early Modern Hindi”: U-M Center for South Asian Studies. Lecture by Columbia University Indian literature professor Allison Busch. 4–6 p.m., 1636 SSWB International Institute, 1080 South University. Free. 615-4059.

Chocolate Gelato Tasting: Zingerman's Delicatessen. Zingerman's gelato maker Josh Minor discusses and offers taste samples of several of Zingerman's chocolate gelati. 6–8 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. \$30. 929-0500.

★“Rum & Chocolate Valentine's Cocktail Hour”: Zingerman's Delicatessen. Zingerman's staff discuss and offer taste samples of pairings of different rums and chocolates. 6–7 & 8–9 p.m., Zingerman's Events on Fourth, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$35. Reservations required. 663-3400.

★“Potluck & Skillshare”: Ann Arbor Reskilling. Potluck dinner (bring a dish to pass and your own plate, cup, and utensils), followed by hands-on demos of “Raw Sweets for Your Sweet” (\$2 for taste samples) and “Couples Massage.” Preregistration required for the demos at rawsweets.eventbrite.com and a2massage.eventbrite.com. 6–8:30 p.m., Hathaway's Hideaway, 310 S. Ashley. Free, except as noted. Donations accepted. A2reskilling.com

★“Kids Night In”: U-M Natural History Museum. Parents invited to drop off their kids ages 5–12 for a mini-camp. Participants get their hearts pumping as they learn more about the heart and circulatory system, learn about our neighbor Mars and what it would take to visit it, and get the chance to capture a rainbow or galaxy in a bottle. 6–10 p.m., Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. \$35 (members, \$30). Sibling discounts available. Preregistration required by Feb. 11 at umnh.org. 615-7116.

★“Poetry at Literati: Katie Hartsock and Laura Kasischke”: Literati Bookstore. Readings by U-M creative writing grad Hartsock and nationally acclaimed local poet and novelist Kasischke. Hartsock has a forthcoming chapbook, *Hotels, Motels, and Extended Stays*. Kasischke's new collection, *The Infinitesimals*, draws on her own experience with cancer and the lives and deaths of loved ones. Signing. 6 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

Team USA Under-17 vs. Madison: USA Hockey National Team Development Program. Feb. 13 & 14. The younger of the 2 Ann Arbor-based USA Hockey national development teams plays a weekend series against this U.S. Hockey League rival. 7 p.m., Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. at Scio Church Rd. \$7 (seniors, students, active military, & kids, \$5; youth hockey players with jerseys, \$1). 327-9251.

★3rd Annual Creature Courtship: The Creature Conservancy. Feb. 13 & 14. All age 21 & over invited for wine and hors d'oeuvres. Followed by a presentation, with live animals, on methods of seduction and reproduction in the animal kingdom. Attendees are encouraged to arrive 10 minutes early. 7 p.m. sharp, Creature Conservancy, 4940 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. \$20 & a donation of unopened dry or canned dog or cat food. Reservations required at thecreatureconservancy.org/upcoming-events.html. 929-9324.

★“The Birthday Party”: EMU Theater Department. See 6 Friday. 7 p.m.

★Ann Arbor Kirtan. All invited to join a group performance of this traditional devotional call-and-response music based on Hindu Vaishnava texts and the writings of poet-saints. Accompanied by live music based on rhythmic Indian ragas on bass guitar, tabla, and drums. 7:30–9:30 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill St. Free, but donations accepted. 761-7435.

Advanced English Country Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Arlene Kindel, Bob Messer, Susie Lorand, and others call to music by Steve Schneider, Lorand, and Nadine Dyskant-Miller. For experienced dancers. 8–11 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). \$10. ffuerst@juno.com, (248) 288-4737.

★EMU Wind Symphony: EMU Music Department. Mary Schneider directs this music student ensemble in a program featuring music by the young Minnesota composer Aaron Perrine. 8 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★“Lasting Echoes: Musical Exchanges Between China and India”: U-M Confucius Institute. A concert of traditional Chinese and Indian music and Chinese-Indian fusion. Performers are sitarist Indrajit Banerjee, tabla player Hindole Majumdar, and Central Conservatory of Music (China) music professor Liu

classical music

Mendelssohn's Elijah

*The heights and
depths of devotion*

Composer Felix Mendelssohn was also a skilled graphic artist who painted landscapes in watercolor and oils. In 1829, while touring with his sketchbook through Scotland's Hebrides archipelago, he visited the isle of Staffa and became awestruck by the organ-like purl of waves over rocks at a place called Fingal's Cave, which he would later describe as a "vast cathedral of the seas" bristling with basalt pillars. The resultant *Hebrides Overture* is a striking example of Mendelssohn's ability to transport listeners to faraway locales, as is his oratorio *Elijah*, a tale of sanctity, scarcity, and struggle set in the deserts east of the Mediterranean during the ninth century B.C. *Elijah* will be performed by the UMS Choral Union and the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra with Connecticut's Elm City Girls' Choir on February 14 at Hill Auditorium.

Influenced by Handel's *Israel in Egypt* and the Passions of J.S. Bach, *Elijah* is Mendelssohn's mosaic of wisdom and lore from the Old and New Testaments, combining episodes from Kings I and II with verses from numerous other books including Psalms and Ecclesiastes. A devout Christian, Felix was the creative embodiment of grandfather Moses Mendelssohn's hard-won ideal of European Jewish emancipation and assimilation. Elijah himself is a complex figure. A beloved prophet of the Jewish people, he is honored in the Koran, was made a saint by the Eastern Orthodox Church, and is generally regarded by Christians as a precursor to Christ. Elijah's resurrection of a deceased child is the first such reference in the Bible.

At its gentlest, Mendelssohn's *Elijah* is profoundly beatific, with angelic choral harmonies and exquisite solo voices ten-



MARK GUKICH

derly expressing the heights and depths of spiritual devotion. These moments contrast dramatically with instrumental evocations of the awesome powers of nature. After the land is disrupted by gales, torrents, earthquakes, and wildfires, Yahweh is revealed to his prophet as subtle and soft-spoken. Yet this oratorio also contains a controversial depiction of violence fomented by religious intolerance.

Modern biblical scholarship suggests that apart from his role as a holy man who counseled his people to trust their god and pray for rain during a prolonged and devastating drought, some of the legends associated with Elijah were deliberately constructed to legitimize the Jehu Dynasty's bloody overthrow of the Omrides and "shore up its power during times of political and military weakness." Perhaps that is why the otherwise compassionate Elijah is depicted as a raging monotheistic zealot who orders and oversees the massacre of no fewer than 450 prophets of a rival deity. Mendelssohn, considering all scripture to be sacred, diligently included this scene, which may strike some listeners as problematic. Finally, after a vortex elevates the prophet to heaven in a flaming chariot, the remainder of the work takes on an increasingly Christian aspect in alignment with Mendelssohn's earlier and more rarely performed oratorio, *St. Paul*.

—arwulf arwulf

Yuening and grad student Mi Xuanye, who both play *yangqin*, a Chinese dulcimer. Also, earlier today a symposium (9:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Michigan League Vandenberg Room) with leading scholars and performers from around the world on historical and contemporary musical exchanges between China and India. 8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764-8888.

★Contemporary Directions Ensemble: U-M School of Music. Christopher James Lees conducts this adventurous ensemble of music majors in works TBA. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615-3204.

"Perchance to Dreame: Songs and Dances from 17th-Century England": Les Voix Humaines (Academy of Early Music). This acclaimed Montreal viola da gamba duo of Susie Napper and Margaret Little is joined by lutenist Sylvain Bergeron and acclaimed tenor Charles Daniels in a program of works by 17th-century English composers. Napper and Little also give a talk at the Ann Arbor District Library on Feb. 14 (see listing). 8 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Tickets \$25 (seniors, \$22; students, \$5) in advance at academyofearlymusic.org, Nicola's Books (Westgate), & Bookbound (1729 Plymouth), and at the door. 478-6421.

Nathan Bell: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Veteran Nashville singer-songwriter known for his fresh, literate takes on a wide assortment of subjects from love, families, and war to muscle cars and factory towns. Desserts & coffee available. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. \$12 (kids age 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665-8558.

"Guys on Ice": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday, 8 p.m.

"Steel Magnolias": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday, 8 p.m.

"Yellowman": Performance Network. See 1 Sunday, 8 p.m.

Lynn Koplit: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 12 Thursday, 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Laugh at Love: An Anti-Valentine's Day Show": Laugh Riot Dolls (Emergent Arts). An all-female cabaret-style comedy show that features stand-up by Heather Kozlakowski, a local comic who's known for her honest and revealing style of comedy and who has performed with Tig Notaro and Maria Bamford. With live music by the barbershop & boogie-woogie ensemble *The Little Dollies*. 9 p.m., *The Mix Studio Theater*, 8 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. \$10 (\$4 discount if you bring an itemized receipt from Haab's Restaurant for the day of the show) in advance at emergentarts.com, and at the door. 985-0875.

14 SATURDAY (VALENTINE'S DAY)

11th Annual Ice Fishing Derby: Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. Kids and adults invited to catch northern pike, bluegill, bass, and crappie in this annual fishing derby. Prizes for "Longest Northern Pike" and "Longest Pan Fish." Bring your own bait. No alcohol, ATVs, or snowmobiles. 7 a.m.-5 p.m., Independence Lake County Park Beach Center, 3200 Jennings (north off North Territorial), Webster Twp. \$10 (kids 12 & under, \$5), includes lunch; \$5 park entry fee. Preregistration requested at parsonline.ewashtenaw.org. 449-4437, ext. 201.

★Eco-Restoration Workday: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum. Feb. 14 & 21. All invited to help Matthaei staff members remove invasive plants. Dress for outdoor work. Tools provided, or bring your own. Note: Kids age 15 & under must be accompanied by an adult. Youth ages 16-18 must submit a permission form. 9 a.m.-noon, meet at the Arb Reader Center (Feb. 14), 1610 Washington Hts., & Matthaei (Feb. 21), 1800 N. Dixboro

25TH ANNUAL DAVID W. BELIN LECTURE
IN AMERICAN JEWISH AFFAIRS

LILA CORWIN BERMAN
TEMPLE UNIVERSITY

THE JEWISH ROMANCE WITH THE MODERN CITY: LOVING, LEAVING, AND REFORMING

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2015, 7 PM (6:30 PM RECEPTION)
FORUM HALL, PALMER COMMONS
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IN MODERN TIMES, JEWS EMERGED AS THE CONSUMMATE URBAN DWELLERS. URBANISM IMPRINTED ITSELF UPON JEWISH POLITICAL, CULTURAL, ECONOMIC, AND SPIRITUAL LIFE, JUST AS JEWS IMPRINTED THEMSELVES ON CITY SPACE. WHAT HAPPENED, THEN, TO CITIES AND TO JEWS, WHEN JEWS JOINED THE DROVES OF AMERICANS WHO LEFT URBAN SPACE AFTER WORLD WAR II? DRAWING FROM HER EXTENSIVE RESEARCH ON DETROIT, LILA CORWIN BERMAN SUGGESTS THAT CONTRARY TO THE HISTORY OF WHITE FLIGHT, THE STORY OF JEWISH MIGRATION AWAY FROM CITIES IS NOT ONE OF URBAN DISINVESTMENT. AS JEWS MOVED AWAY FROM CITIES, THEY REMAINED INVESTED, EVEN IF AMBIVALENTLY, IN URBAN LIFE. AMERICAN JEWS' ENDURING URBANISM REFLECTED THEIR HISTORICAL ENTANGLEMENT WITH MODERN URBAN FORMATION. IN RECENT YEARS, JEWS HAVE RETURNED TO CITY SPACES ONCE CONSIDERED INHOSPITABLE TO JEWISH LIFE, HELPING TO SET IN MOTION NEW POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STRUCTURES THAT ARE REMAKING URBAN LIFE AS WE KNOW IT.



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Baroque music



Henrik Karapetyan & Francis Yun

Twelve extra strings

You expect a lot of strings at a violin and harpsichord concert—four on the violin and at least 120 on the harpsichord (harpsichords are not uniform, so the number of strings varies from instrument to instrument). But, when violinist Henrik Karapetyan and keyboardist Francis Yun present a program of Baroque music at the Kerrytown Concert House on February 15, they will bring twelve more strings. That's because Karapetyan will play four violins.

Karapetyan and Yun have each recently completed their doctoral studies at the U-M. Both have long performed and taught widely in prestigious venues and institutions, and both are highly skilled on their instruments. But as gifted as he is, Karapetyan does not have eight arms, and won't be playing more than one violin at a time. They're needed because each of the three sonatas by Heinrich Biber on their program requires *scordatura*, or different-from-normal tuning. In one, the *Resurrection Sonata*, the violinist is even instructed to exchange the physical placement of two strings, crossing the A and D strings below the bridge, "which is really, really a terrible thing to do to a violinist!" says Karapetyan, laughing. Biber experimented often with *scordatura*, primarily for musical reasons, as it allowed him to play chords not possible in normal tuning. But in this case,



"it's also a symbolic gesture," Karapetyan theorizes, as the interlaced strings visually represent Christ's cross. Biber, a famous violinist of his time, greatly expanded the harmonic and contrapuntal possibilities of the instrument, thereby laying the groundwork for Bach's later massive works for solo violin.

The program will also feature Handel's Sonata in A major and Bach's Sonata in C minor. Both written around 1725, they each adhere to some Baroque conventions, but Handel and Bach had very different approaches to music, and these sonatas dramatically exemplify those contrasting styles. While each uses the customary slow-fast-slow-fast four-movement structure of Baroque sonatas and both have a contrapuntal second movement, the similarities end there. Bach, unlike most Baroque composers, wrote out every note for the violin and harpsichord. Handel wrote out the violin part but notated only a figured bass or continuo part for the accompanying instrument or team of instruments. "There is the feeling of more space and relative freedom in Handel and more playful, folklike rhythmic patterns," says Karapetyan. Just as their instruments dialogue, Yun continues the thought: "There's more a kind of seriousness, more worked-out thoughts in Bach, while there is more theater, more special effects in Handel." Then, laughing, he adds, "Handel is Steven Spielberg directing *Jaws*, Bach is Steven Spielberg directing *Schindler's List*. Both are great, but there is a difference."

—Sandor Slomovits

Rd. Free (metered parking at Matthaei). Preregistration required by phone or email. tgriffit@umich.edu, 647-8528.

Huron Gun Collectors. Feb. 14 & 15. About 100 dealers and collectors offer guns, knives, ammunition, and other hunting equipment for sale, including antiques and collectibles. Concessions. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (Sat.) & 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (Sun.), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Admission \$4. (517) 605-0624.

"Hot Chocolate": U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Kids, accompanied by a parent, invited to learn about chocolate and make a chocolate treat to take home. 10 a.m.-noon, Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro. \$8 per child; metered parking. Preregistration recommended. 647-7600.

45th Annual Train Show and Sale: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club. Feb. 14 & 15. The Midwest's largest model railroad flea market draws model railroaders, collectors, and train buffs from all over to display, trade, and sell model railroad equipment and memorabilia. Also, a kids' zone, displays of model train operating layouts, clinics by model railroad club members, and a raffle. Concessions. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (Feb. 14) & 10 a.m.-3 p.m. (Feb. 15), Saline Middle School, 7190 N. Maple, Saline. \$6 (scouts in uniform and kids age 9 & under with adult, free). 426-0829.

"Under the African Sky": Wild Swan Theater. See 12 Thursday. 11 a.m.

"Iolanta/Duke Bluebeard's Castle": Quality 16. Live broadcast of this Metropolitan Opera double bill of one-act operas featuring Tchaikovsky's lyrical fairy tale *Iolanta*, which stars Anna Netrebko and Piotr Beczala, and Bartok's erotic psychological thriller *Duke Bluebeard's Castle*, which stars Nadja Michael and Mikhail Petrenko. A recording of this performance is rebroadcast on Feb. 18 (see listing). 12:30-4:10 p.m., Quality 16, 3686 Jackson. Tickets \$22 (seniors, \$20; kids age 12 & under & students, \$16) in advance at goodrichqualitytheaters.com/programs/met-opera-live-2014/ and at the door. 623-7469.

"Perchance to Dreame: Music of 17th-Century England": Ann Arbor District Library. Lecture-demo by Les Voix Humaines, the Canadian viol duo of Susie Napper and Margaret Little, who have become internationally renowned for their 2-viol arrangements of a wide variety of early and contemporary music. The duo performs at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Feb. 13 (see listing). 1-2 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

"22nd Annual Winter Walkabout": Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy. All invited for snacks, warm drinks, and socializing, followed at 2 p.m. by a drive 1 mile south for a leisurely 90-minute walk through the 424-acre LeFurge Woods Nature Preserve to look for animal tracks and enjoy the winter landscape. Dress for the weather; in case of

inclement weather, call or check smcland.org or facebook.com/southeastmichiganlandconservancy. 1:15 p.m., Superior Township Hall, 3040 N. Prospect at Cherry Hill, Superior Twp. For the walk only, park on Vreeland just east of Prospect. Free; donations accepted. 484-6565.

Victorian Valentine Tea: Kempf House Museum. Feb. 14 & 15. An elegant traditional tea with a menu that includes both sweets and savorys. With romantic piano music played on the Kempf family's 1877 Steinway and display of a refurbished period dollhouse. Display of turn-of-the-century Valentines. All welcome to come in period attire. This popular annual fundraiser usually sells out well in advance. 1:30 p.m. & 4 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. \$25 (members, \$20). Reservations required. 994-4898.

"History of Bicycling in Michigan": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by local bike mechanic Kevin Sanchez. 2-3 p.m., AADL 4th-floor meeting room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

"Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun": Compagnie Non Nova (University Musical Society). Feb. 14, 15, 19, & 20. A 25-minute spectacle in which plastic bags are manipulated by air (foehn is a mountain wind) and transform into charming, graceful characters that swirl to Debussy's famous ballet work, *Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun*. "A little miracle occurs before your eyes," says a *Metro* (UK) review. "The effect is beautiful ... a mysterious delight, truly inspired." 7 p.m. (all dates), 2 & 5 p.m. (Feb. 14 & 15), and 9 p.m. (Feb. 19 & 20), Skyline High School, 2552 N. Maple. \$20 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

"A Concert in Honor of St. Valentine." The local trio of recorder player Corinne Schat, violist da gamba Janet Cannon, and harpsichordist Martha Folts present a concert exploring changes over time in the representation of love, romance, and marriage. The program blends short poetry texts from various eras with music by Renaissance composers Gastoldi, Boedeker, and Sandrin/Rognoni and Baroque composers Bach, Loeillet, and Couperin. 4 p.m., Campus Chapel, 1236 Washtenaw. \$10-\$15 donation. 834-0656, 395-3327.

"U-M Jazz Day": U-M School of Music. Performance by U-M jazz faculty members, including saxophonist Andrew Bishop, drummer Sean Dobbins, percussionist Michael Gould, bassists Marion Hayden and Robert Hurst, trumpeter Bill Lucas, flugelhornist Ed Sarath, trombonist Dennis Wilson, and pianists Benny Green and Ellen Rowe. The program begins with a Q&A on the U-M jazz program. Preceded 2-4:15 p.m. by an afternoon of masterclasses and jam sessions (U-M Music School, 1100 Baits, North Campus). 4:30 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 615-3204.

"Owl Do I Love Thee": Leslie Science and Nature Center. All couples invited for chocolate-covered strawberries, gourmet cheese, and a tasty beverage, followed by a lantern-lit poetry walk to the LSNC raptor enclosures to view the resident owls up close. 7-9 p.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. \$25 per couple. Preregistration required. 997-1533.

"The Birthday Party": EMU Theater Department. See 6 Friday. 7 p.m.

2nd Saturday Contra Dance: Sharon Hollow String Band. Reuven AnafShalom calls to music by the band. All dances taught. No partner needed. Bring flat, smooth-soled shoes. Preceded at 7:30 p.m. by a lesson. 8-11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. \$10 (students, \$5). garth.gerber@charter.net, 649-6426.

Ballroom Dancing Night: Pittsfield Township Parks and Recreation Department. Ballroom dancing to recorded music from the last several decades. Singles and couples invited. Refreshments. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a lesson. 8-10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Twp. Recreation Hall, S. State at Ellsworth. \$10. 822-2120.

Spirit Singing Band: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth Cafe 704 Coffeehouse. Local musicians Kath Roos, Lori Fithian, Sam Clark, Aron Kaufman, and Stephen Morris, are joined by the audience for a night of spirit singing, a blend of familiar songs, trance chant, and improvisation. 8-10 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. \$8 (\$15 for 2). 327-0270.

"Valentine's Ragtime Trot": Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy. Various dances that were popular from 1900 to the 1920s, with live music by the Huron Valley Serenaders. Period attire encouraged. Preceded at 11 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. by dance lessons. 8-11 p.m., Crossroads Community Center, 5501 Webster Church Rd., Dexter. \$30 (includes lessons). Preregistration requested at vintagedance.com.

"An Enchanted Evening": TeaHaus. Romantic music by local Celtic harpist Carol Kappus. With TeaHaus desserts. 8 p.m., TeaHaus, 204 N. Fourth

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Árbor: Canterbury House. Local 7-piece Latin ensemble that performs everything from slow cha-cha grooves to hard-driving Latin funk. 8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. \$10 (students, \$5). 665-0606.

"Mr. B's Annual Birthday Bounce": Kerrytown Concert House. World-renowned local blues pianist Mark "Mr. B" Braun celebrates his birthday in this popular annual concert, this year with some Valentine's Day flair. An exuberant, powerful performer whose repertoire includes both boogie-woogie and blues classics and originals in the same mold, Mr. B has performed and recorded with world-class artists such as the late drummer J.C. Heard and Detroit percussionist Roy Brooks. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15-\$30 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

"Mendelssohn's Elijah": University Musical Society. See review, p. 63. The Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra and the UMS Choral Union are joined by the Elm City Girls' Choir and several soloists in a performance of Mendelssohn's epic oratorio. Composed in the spirit of Bach and Handel, the work dramatically evokes oceans, earthquakes, fires, and the resurrection of the dead. Soloists include soprano Julianna Di Giacomo, mezzo-soprano Susan Platts, tenor Nicholas Phan, and bass-baritone Dean Peterson. Preceded at 5:15 p.m. by "Mendelssohn's Elijah in Context," a panel discussion on the biblical character Elijah, with U-M Early Christian studies and Judaic studies professor Gabriele Boccaccini, U-M art history professor emerita and U-M Judaic studies visiting professor Shelley Perlove, and U-M English professor emeritus Ralph Williams (2022 Thayer Bldg., 202 S. Thayer). Also, a brief lecture on the program begins at 7:30 p.m. in the lobby. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$10-\$36 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

"Guys on Ice": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Steel Magnolias": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Yellowman": Performance Network. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

Lynn Kopitz: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 12 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

15 SUNDAY

★**San, Emily, & Jacob: Jewish Community Center Sunday Brunch Concert Series.** This local acoustic trio—father and daughter singer-instrumentalists San & Emily Slomovits with bassist Jacob Warren—performs a wide range of traditional and contemporary folk, jazz, and classical music, including material from their CD, *Innocent When You Dream*. All invited. 11 a.m.–2:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$5 includes brunch. Reservations required. 971-0990.

★**Deborah Burch: Barnes & Noble.** This Manchester writer and illustrator discusses her 2 Christian children's books, *Guided by Grace* and *God's Greatest Gift*. Noon–2 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

"Brewing Methods": Zingerman's Coffee Company. Zingerman's Coffee Co. staff demonstrate and discuss 6–8 different ways to brew coffee, from filter drip to siphon pot. 1–3 p.m., Zingerman's Coffee Company, 3723 Plaza Dr. \$30. 929-6060.

★**"Chesstastic!":** Ann Arbor District Library. All kids and adults invited to play chess. Sets provided. 1–4 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327-4555.

"6th Annual Chili Cook-Off": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Fundraiser. Tastings of 10 chilis and 5 beers. Raffle. 2–5 p.m., Wolverine State Brewing Company, 2019 W. Stadium. Tickets for chili only: \$10 (kids ages 5–10, \$5; kids age 4 & under, free) in advance or at the door. Tickets for beer & chili: \$20. A2ct.org, 971-2228.

Family Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. All kids, accompanied by an adult, invited for contra and square dancing with live music by Donna Baird and friends. Cookies & lemonade. 2–4 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. \$12 per family. 769-1052.

★**"Mind over Matter":** U-M Natural History Museum Family Reading & Science Program. All kids ages 6–11 (accompanied by a parent or guardian) invited to explore how the brain uses the senses to interpret the world. 2–3 p.m., Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. Pre-registration required. 764-0480.

"Steel Magnolias": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

"The Birthday Party": EMU Theater Department. See 6 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Yellowman": Performance Network. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

"Prelude to the Afternoon of a Foehn": Compagnie Non Nova (University Musical Society). See 14 Saturday. 2, 5, & 7 p.m.

"Guys on Ice": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 p.m.

Downtown Duo: First United Methodist Church. The acclaimed U-M music faculty duo of clarinetist Chad Burrow and pianist Amy I-Lin Chen perform a program TBA. Reception follows. 3 p.m., FUMC, 120 S. State. Freewill offering. 662-4536, ext. 0.

★"Helping the Honeybee": Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor. Panel discussion on the crisis in bee colonies, with local beekeepers Lisa Bashert, Germaine Smith, and Dick Dyer. 4-6 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794-6250.

★Vincent Dubois: Ypsilanti Pipe Organ Festival. This French organ virtuoso performs one of his famed improvisations which have been hailed as "technically and structurally brilliant ... an astonishing tour de force," by the *Nashville Scene*. The program also includes works by Bach, Mozart, Franck, Vierne, and Duruflé. Followed by a reception at the Ladies' Literary Club of Ypsilanti next door. 4 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 300 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. Free. 482-1525.

★EMU Symphonic Band and Concert Band: EMU Music Department. Amy Knopps directs these 2 music student ensembles in a program TBA. 4 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

Henrik Karapetyan & Francis Yun: Kerrytown Concert House. See review, p. 65. This accomplished local duo of Baroque violinist Karapetyan and harpsichordist Yun performs Handel's Sonata in A major for Violin and Continuo, Bach's Sonata in G minor for Violin and Cembalo, and Biber's *Rosary Sonatas*. 4 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10-\$25 (students, \$5) in advance at kerrytownconcerthouse.com & by phone, and (if available) at the door. Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

Wynton Marsalis & Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra: University Musical Society. Pulitzer Prize-winning composer-trumpeter Marsalis leads the orchestra—widely regarded as the finest large jazz ensemble playing today—in new jazz works as well as those that honor the heritage of Duke Ellington and Louis Armstrong. "One rarely hears this music played with such technical brilliance, stylistic authenticity and tonal sheen," writes a *Chicago Tribune* reviewer. 4 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$14-\$66 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

★"Facets of Love: A Tribute to St. Valentine": Arbor Opera Theater Annual Valentine's Cabaret. This polished local opera company presents a program of opera, operetta, and musical theater love songs. Cabaret seating includes food and drink. 4 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1500 Scio Church Rd. Tickets \$10 (cabaret seating, \$25) in advance & at the door. arboropera.com, 996-3729.

★Piano Exchange Concert: U-M School of Music. Performances by Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music students. 5:30 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615-3204.

★Javanese Gamelan Concert: U-M School of Music/U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies. Susan Walton and Grinnell College gamelan researcher Roger Vetter direct the ensemble in traditional Javanese music. Dancers Theresa Rohlek and Zoë McLaughlin perform Javanese traditional dance that depicts ancient epics. The gamelan is an assembly of 50 gongs and metallophones, drums, strings, flutes, xylophone, and singers. 8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 615-3204, 764-0352.

16 MONDAY (PRESIDENT'S DAY)

School Break Activities: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Feb. 16-20. All kids, accompanied by a parent, invited for various nature-based activities. Feb. 16: "Self-Guided Adventure Day." Kids invited to use a Matthaei adventure backpack to explore the gardens. Backpacks include activity sheets, magnifying lenses, paper, and crayons. Feb. 17: "Windowsill Wonders," a chance to learn about windowsill gardens and the basics of seed starting, to decorate a clay pot, and to plant a few seeds that can be transplanted outdoors. Feb. 18: "Tree Tales" includes stories about trees and a chance to make a "tree cookie" from a slice of a tree branch. Feb. 19: "Biomes of the World," a self-guided scavenger hunt through the Conservatory. Feb. 20: "Flavor-Filled Friday," a guided walk through the conservatory to learn about food plants. Samples of tropical fruits and spices. 10 a.m.-noon, Matthaei, 1800 N.

Dixboro. Free (Feb. 16 & 19) & \$5 (all other dates). Metered parking. 647-7600.

★"Buhr Blitz": Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation. Public skating, with a family-oriented program of games and contests. Prizes. Noon-2 p.m., Buhr Park Ice Rink, 2751 Packard. \$6 (youths age 17 & under and seniors age 60 & over, \$5). \$1 discount for Ann Arbor residents. Skate rentals (\$3) available. 794-6234.

★Volunteer Stewardship Workday: Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation Division. Feb. 16 & 21. All invited to help maintain the natural areas in various city parks. Also, city staffers lead a short nature walk at the end of each workday. Minors must be accompanied by an adult or obtain a release form in advance. Feb. 16: Gallup Park (9 a.m.-noon, meet at the parking lot just over the bridge via the Fuller Rd. entrance) to help remove invasive woody shrubs from the park's high-quality sedge meadow. Feb. 21: Furstenberg Nature Area (1-3 p.m., off Fuller Rd. across from Huron High) to help remove honeysuckle, buckthorn and other invasive shrubs and then build a snowman (weather permitting). 1-3 p.m., various locations. Free. 794-6627.

★"Nihon no toshi kukan: Approaches to the City Invisible": U-M History of Art/U-M Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning. University of Washington architecture professor Ken Tadashi Oshima discusses the ideas about Japanese urban space that were circulating at the 1960s World Design Conference. 6 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 535 S. State. Free. 764-5400.

★Embroiderers' Guild of America. Stitchers of all abilities invited to work on their projects together and learn about guild activities. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. 6:45-9 p.m., Pittsfield Condominium Community Bldg., 2220 Pittsfield Blvd. Free to visitors (\$30 annual dues for those who join). 994-4385.

★"Bubble Magnets": Ann Arbor District Library. All adults & teens in grade 6 & up invited to cut out pictures from magazines and comics books and then glue convex glass lenses onto them to magnify the image. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3334 Traver at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327-8301.

★"[E]met: An Honest Conversation about Death": Temple Beth Emeth. All invited to join the first in a monthly series of informal discussions about death and how to make the most of life. 7-8:30 p.m., TBE, 2309 Packard. Free. aostfield@templebethemeth.org

★"The Presidency in Black and White: My Up-Close View of Three Presidents and Race in America": Ann Arbor District Library. Veteran American Urban Radio Networks White House correspondent April Ryan discusses her new book. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★David Zinn: Ann Arbor Women Artists. This fabulous local street artist, illustrator, and designer discusses his work. 7-8 p.m., Jackson Square Plaza, 4844 Jackson. Free. 662-6671.

★Josh Malerman: Literati Bookstore. This Ferndale singer-songwriter reads from *Bird Box*, his debut novel, a thriller about an unknown terror that drives people to deadly violence when it is seen. Blindfolded, a woman and her children search for refuge. Signing. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

★Ann Arbor Stamp Club. Talk TBA by Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo member Gene Stutzenstein. Also, a mini stamp auction and American Philatelic Society circuit books. 7:30 p.m., Salvation Army, 100 Arbana (park & enter at the rear of the building). Free. 761-5859.

★"Roasted Green Corn and Ooxrat: The Plant World of the Huron/Wyandot People": Michigan Botanical Club/Wild Ones. Naturalist Gerry Wykes discusses the ways people from the Detroit River region have historically used plants. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. 647-7600.

★Jonathan Ovalle & Amy Porter: U-M School of Music. U-M percussion professor Ovalle performs solo percussion works as well as Ingolf Dahl's *Duettino Concertante*, with U-M flute professor Porter. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615-3204.

17 TUESDAY

★"Candy Sushi": Ann Arbor District Library. All kids in grades K-5 invited to make a sushi-like snack with Rice Krispies Treats, fruit leather, and something sugary. 2-3 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-8301.

★"Mardi Gras Masks": Ann Arbor District Library. All kids in grades K-5 invited to decorate a mask with sequins, feathers, and other stuff. 2-3 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

★"Killing Time, Saving Time: Calendars and the Holocaust": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. Holocaust scholar Alan Rosen discusses how European Jews tracked time when cut off from the world in ghettos and concentration camps. 4 p.m., 2022 Thayer Bldg., 202 S. Thayer. Free. 763-9047.

★"Taming the Killer Lakes of Africa": U-M College of Literature, Science, & the Arts. U-M ecology and evolutionary biology professor George Kling discusses what's behind the explosive release of carbon dioxide gas from 2 lakes in Cameroon that resulted in the loss of nearly 1800 lives in 1984, and what steps are being taken to prevent its recurrence. Reception follows. 4:10 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater. Free. 998-6251.

★"Rescuing the Reluctant Networker": American Business Women's Association. Talk by Reluctant Networker founder Greg Peters. The program begins with networking and dinner. 6 p.m., Quarter Bistro, 300 S. Maple. Free (buy your own dinner). Preregistration required by noon on Feb. 12 at abwa-maia.org/resform.html. walkers@umich.edu

★"Geometric Origami 101": Ann Arbor District Library. Local crafter Beth Batten shows adults and youth in grade 4 & up the basics of the art of Japanese paper folding and how to make animals and geometric shapes. 6:45-8:45 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-8301.

★"Webcomics": Ann Arbor District Library. Local professional cartoonists are on hand to help adults and teens in grade 9 & up work on their own comics. All completed strips may be submitted for inclusion in the new AADL webcomics page. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-8301.

★"Herbal Wisdom: Integrating Herbal Use with Conventional Medicine": People's Food Co-op. Local holistic health practitioner Linda Diane Feldt gives a talk on how to use herbs in conjunction with conventional medicine, with emphasis on cancer treatments. 7-8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required at the co-op or at peoplesfood.coop/news_and_events/. 994-4589.

★"The Winter's Tale": Quality 16. Taped rebroadcast of the Royal Ballet production of English choreographer Christopher Wheeldon's ballet based on Shakespeare's late romance about a headstrong king who banishes his beloved wife, who's wrongly suspected of infidelity, along with their child. He suffers for his foolishness, but after a long period of repentance is joyfully reunited with his family. 7-10 p.m., Quality 16, 3686 Jackson. Tickets \$16 in advance at gqti.com/met.aspx and at the door. 623-7469.

★Skazat! Poetry Series at Sweetwaters. Poetry reading by Detroit poet Jamaal May, author of the American Library Association Notable Book Award-winning 2013 collection *Hum*. The program begins with open mike readings. 7-8:30 p.m., Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, 123 W. Washington. Free. 994-6663.

★"Native Pollinators: Creatures of Purpose with a Sense of Place": Huron Valley Sierra Club. Talk by U-M landscape architecture grad student Pete Windin. Refreshments. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. 665-0248.

★"New Holland Brewing and Oyster Dinner: A Mardi Gras Celebration": Zingerman's Roadhouse. New Holland Brewing owner Fred Bueltmann, author of *The Beervangelist's Guide to the Galaxy*, and Roadhouse chef Alex Young host a dinner featuring an oyster-based New Orleans menu paired with beers from this Holland (MI) microbrewery. Preceded at 6 p.m. by an "Oyster and Beer Reception" (\$40). 7:30 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. \$90. Space limited; reservations required. 663-FOOD.

★The Moth Storyslam: Michigan Radio. Monthly open mike storytelling competition sponsored by The Moth, the NYC-based nonprofit storytelling organization that also produces a weekly public radio show. Each month 10 storytellers are selected at random from among those who sign up to tell a 3-5 minute story on the monthly theme. February theme: "Adventure." The 3 teams of judges are recruited from the audience. Monthly winners compete in a semiannual Grand Slam. Space limited, so it's smart to arrive early. 7:30-9 p.m. (doors open and sign-up begins at 6 p.m.), The Circus, 210 S. First. \$8. 764-5118.

★Euphonium & Tuba Concert: U-M School of Music. The Youth Euphonium/Tuba Ensemble and the U-M Euphonium/Tuba Ensemble perform originals and transcribed compositions. 8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 615-3204.

★Danielle Belen: U-M School of Music. This new U-M violin professor performs solo and chamber works by Corigliano, Mendelssohn, and others. Accompanists are other U-M music professors. 8 p.m.,

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galleries

New exhibits this month:

Ann Arbor District Library, Malletts Creek Branch (3090 E. Eisenhower). *Landscapes: Pastel Paintings* by Sara Lowell Swanson (Feb. 3–Mar. 12). Exhibition by this Saline artist, whose work often depicts local parks and countryside. Mon. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Tues.–Fri. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun., noon–6 p.m. 327–4555.

Concordia University Kreft Center for the Arts, 4090 Geddes. *Seder Burns, Recent Work* (Feb. 3–Mar. 13). Landscape photography that explores the artificiality of the groomed suburban landscape. Reception Feb. 13, 7–9 p.m. Tues.–Fri. noon–4 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 1–5 p.m. 995–7389.

Gifts of Art (U-M Hospitals), Main Hospital: *Stunningly Ordinary*, oil paintings by Amy Fell; *Civil War Soldiers*, life-size colored pencil portraits of African American Civil War soldiers by Shayne Davidson; *Playground Valentine*, art jewelry and found objects by Amber Harrison (all exhibits run Feb. 9–Apr. 5). **Taubman Center**: *Michigan Splendor*, wildlife and floral photography by Dick and Sue Riegerink; *Storytelling Whimsical Sculpture* by Leanne Schnepf; *An Intimate View of Nature*, photography by Jan Bell; *Life Line*, scratchboard etchings by Lisa Goesling (all exhibits run Feb. 9–Apr. 5). Daily 8 a.m.–8 p.m. 936–ARTS.

Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. *Sarah Price* (Feb. 3–Mar. 2). Photographs of El Salvador and the Community Farm of Ann Arbor by this Rudolf Steiner High School junior. Mon.–Fri. 9:30

a.m.–5 p.m., by appointment, and during evening concerts. 769–2999.

Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. *Black History Month* (Feb. 5–28). Works by area African American artists. Thurs.–Sat. 3–8 p.m., Sun. 1:30–4 p.m. 480–2787.

U-M Museum of Natural History, 1109 Geddes. *Dance of the Neurons* (Feb. 1–May date TBA). Full-color images of microscopic cell structures. Reception Feb. 6, 5–6:30 p.m. Mon.–Sat. 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 763–4191.

U-M Hatcher Graduate Library, Room 100 (enter from the Diag). *Learning in 'Real Life': Stories of Impact Through Engagement* (Feb. 2–Apr. 14). Exhibit that explores assignments that encourage students to engage with the world outside of academia. For hours, see lib.umich.edu/hatcher-graduate-library. 764–3166.

U-M Institute for the Humanities Gallery, 202 S. Thayer St. *Dykes, Dads, and Moms to Watch Out For: The Comics of Alison Bechdel* (through Feb. 25). The first comprehensive, curated exhibit of work by Bechdel, the acclaimed cartoonist and graphic memoirist who won the 2014 McArthur "genius" award. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. 936–3518.

U-M Museum of Art (UMMA), 525 S. State. *HE: The Hergott Shepard Photography Collection* (Feb. 14–June 14). Photographs, on loan from L.A.-based collectors Alan Hergott and Curt Shepard, that explore modern Western visions of masculinity and sexuality. *Hana Hamplová: Meditations on Paper*

(Feb. 21–Aug. 9). 1970s photographs by Czech photographer Hamplová that explore the importance of paper and the written word to civilization. Tues.–Sat. 11 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 764–7032.

U-M Residential College Art Gallery, 701 East University. *Uncanny Valley* (Feb. 20–Apr. 20). Objects and photographs that mimic the world of European decorative arts by Guy Michael Davis and Katie Parker, who collaborate under the name Future Retrieval. Reception Feb. 20, 5–7 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 10 a.m.–5 p.m. 762–0032.

U-M Work (U-M School of Art & Design), 306 S. State. *William Lewis: Fragments of the Great War, 1914–1918* (Jan. 27–Feb. 21). WWI-inspired watercolor and collage by U-M art professor emeritus Lewis. Reception Feb. 3, 4:30–6:30 p.m. Tues.–Sun. noon–7 p.m. 998–6178.

University Lutheran Chapel Common Cup Coffeehouse, 1511 Washtenaw. *Denise Wood* (Jan. 31–Feb. 28). Acrylic flower paintings by this local artist. Reception Feb. 13, 7–9 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 8:30 a.m.–10 p.m., Sat. noon–5 p.m., Sun. 8:30 a.m.–9 p.m. 327–6914.

WSG Gallery, 306 S. Main. *A Sense of Place* (Feb. 17–Mar. 28). Landscape paintings by Connie Cronenwett. Reception Feb. 20, 7–9 p.m. Tues. & Wed. noon–6 p.m., Thurs.–Sat. noon–9 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 761–2287.

U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615–3204.

18 WEDNESDAY

★**"Michigan ACLU's Current Civil Rights Initiatives": American Association of University Women**. Lecture by ACLU executive director Kary Moss. Preceded at 11:30 a.m. by lunch (\$15). 12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations required by Feb. 14 via phone or email. jimdonnab@comcast.net, 316–7256.

★**"Knitting Nancies": Ann Arbor District Library**. All kids in grades K–5 invited to make a small, handheld device to help them do some elementary knitting. 1–2 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.

★**"Biodiversity Loss and Its Impact on Humanity": Ann Arbor City Club Dine & Discover**. Lecture by U-M ecology and evolutionary biology professor Bradley Cardinale. Dinner. 6–7:30 p.m., City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. \$33 (members, \$28) includes dinner. Reservations required by Feb. 13. 662–3279, ext. 1.

★**"Iolanta/Duke Bluebeard's Castle": Quality 16**. See 14 Saturday. 6:30–10:10 p.m.

★**"Drumcommunity"** Lori Fithian, a local drummer and drum teacher, leads a drum circle. Instruments provided, or bring your own. Kids welcome. Preceded at 6:45 p.m. by a brief drum lesson. 7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore, 114 S. Main. Free. 426–7818.

★**"Steel Magnolias": Purple Rose Theatre Company**. See 1 Sunday. 2 & 7 p.m.

★**"Birding the Great Migration in Kenya": Washtenaw Audubon Society**. Slide-illustrated talk by Jerry Jourdan, an avid birder and photographer from Wyandotte. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 677–3275.

★**Culinary History Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers**. All invited to discuss Laura Shapiro's *Perfection Salad: Women and Cooking at the Turn of the Century*. 7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.

★**"Confetti Sunrise": U-M Dance Department Meanings & Makings of Queer Dance Series**. Feb. 18 & 19. The South Asian Post Natyam Dance Ensemble, Chicago- and San Francisco-based dancer Anna Martine Whitehead, step dancer Nic Gareiss, Columbia College (Chicago) dance professor Peter Carpenter, and U-M dance grad Ricki Mason perform their works in a variety of genres from classical Indian *kathak* and Irish stepdancing to burlesque to contemporary modern dance. 7:30 p.m., U-M Duderstadt Center Video Studio, 2281 Bonisteel Blvd., North Campus. Free. 763–5461.

★**"Music Now Fest '15": EMU Music Department**. Feb. 18–20 (different programs). This biennial 3-day festival opens tonight with a recital by EMU music faculty of a program of chamber music by this year's guest composer, Steven Stucky, a 2005 Pulitzer Prize winner for his Second Concerto for Orchestra. "In his two-decade association with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, [Stucky] proved himself a consummate composer of instrumental music," says L.A.

Times critic Mark Swed. "He has a gift for lyricism, exquisite coloration and supple forms." Program: *Autumn Leaves* for solo piano, *Isabelle Dances* for solo marimba, *Sonata for Violin and Piano*, *Serenade for Wind Quintet*, *Allegretto quasi Andantino* for piano 4-hands, and a scene from his comic tour-de-force, *The Classical Style, An Opera (of sorts)*. Preceded at 7:15 p.m. by a lecture by Stucky on tonight's program. 8 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.

★**"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase**. See 4 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

19 THURSDAY

★**"Computers, the Internet, and Big Data: Benefits and Dangers": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute**. Every Thurs. (except Mar. 5), Feb. 19–Apr. 2. A series of 6 weekly lectures by U-M and guest scholars. Feb. 19: U-M chief information officer Laura McCain Patterson discusses "Digital Technology Today: Information, Communication, and Entertainment, Benefits and Risks." Feb. 26: U-M School of Information professor Nicole Ellison on "The Benefits of Facebook Friends: Social and Psychological Benefits of Social Media Use." Mar. 12: U-M School of Information dean Jeffrey Mackie-Mason on "Security and Privacy Issues of Social Media." Mar. 19: U-M Software Systems Research Lab director H.V. Jagadish on "Big Data and Data Mining." Mar. 26: U-M computer science professor J. Alex Halderman on "Influence on Democracy of Computers, Internet, and Social Media."

Apr. 12: U-M School of Information and School of Public Health professor Predrag Klasnja on "Pocket Healthcare: The Promise and Challenges of Mobile Health." 10–11:30 a.m., Rave Cinema, 4100 Carpenter. \$50 (includes \$20 membership) for the 6-lecture series. \$10 per lecture for members. 998–9351.

★**U-M Center for Japanese Studies Noon Lecture Series**. Feb. 19: Albion College political science professor Dyon Dabney on "Visible Partner, Invisible Partner: The Role of the Spouse in Japanese Electoral Politics." Feb. 26: MIT Japanese lecturer Takako Aikawa on "Challenges for English to Japanese Machine Translation." Noon, 1636 SSWB International Institute, 1080 South University. Free. 764–6307.

★**"Balloon-Powered Race Cars": Ann Arbor District Library**. All kids in grades K–5 invited to make a race car using a paper plate, straws, and a balloon. 1–2 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.

★**"Tea with the Fairies": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room**. Crazy Wisdom staff dress up as fairies to sprinkle fairy dust and serve tea, petits fours, and cookies to kids and their families. Also, fairy stories and readings. Bring your own fairy wings and dolls. 1–2:30 & 4–5:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. \$11 (babies age 18 months & younger, free). Preregistration required. 665–2757.

★**"A Thousand Letters Home": Daughters of the American Revolution**. Area writer Teresa Irish,

author of *A Thousand Letters Home: One WWII Soldier's Story of War, Love and Life*, gives a presentation based on her father's WWII letters, which were discovered in 2006. 1 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 975–1976.

★**Celine Curio: U-M Institute for the Humanities**. This NYC-based French novelist and journalist talks about her work. She is best known in the U.S. through Sam Richard's translation of *Voice Over*; her acclaimed novel about a lonely young Parisian woman struggling to maintain her sanity in the face of irrational desire. 2 p.m., 202 S. Thayer, room 1022. Free. 936–3518.

★**"Jose Miguel Sokoloff: Transforming Societies": U-M School of Art & Design Penny Stamps Speaker Series**. Lecture by this ad exec who's led an award-winning marketing campaign on behalf of the Colombia Ministry of Defense against the guerrilla war in Colombia. 5:10 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 764–9537.

★**"When the Going Gets Tough: Gut Problems in Older Adults": Ann Arbor District Library**. Talk by U-M geriatric and palliative medicine professor Karen Hall, a recognized authority on geriatric gastroenterology. 7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.

★**"Tropic of Chaos": U-M English Department**. Investigative journalist Christian Parenti discusses his book that explores how climate change contributes to wars, humanitarian crises, and state failures. 7–8:30 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater. Free. 764–6330.

★**Nerd Nite Ann Arbor: Ann Arbor District Library**. Popular monthly event featuring several speakers TBA (at annarbor.nerdnite.com) who give fun yet informative talks, 18–21 minutes long, about topics that interest them, from nanoparticles to the science of the Simpsons and the genealogy of Godzilla. 7–9:30 p.m. or later (doors open at 6:30 p.m.), Live, 102 S. First. Free. 327–4555.

★**Charles Baxter: Nicola's Books**. This nationally renowned fiction writer and poet (a former U-M English professor) reads from *There's Something I Want You to Do*, his new collection of 10 stories—5 named for virtues, 5 for vices—about characters who "muddle through small but pivotal moments," says a *Publishers Weekly* review. "The prose resonates with distinctive turns of phrase that capture human ambiguity and uncertainty: trouble waits patiently at home, irony is the new chastity, and a dying man lives in the house that pain designed for him." Signing. 7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.

★**"Prelude to the Afternoon of a Foehn": Compagnie Non Nova** (University Musical Society). See 14 Saturday. 7 & 9 p.m.

★**"Guys on Ice": Encore Musical Theatre Company**. See 1 Sunday. 7 p.m.

★**"Steel Magnolias": Purple Rose Theatre Company**. See 1 Sunday. 7 p.m.

★**Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra: University Musical Society**. Yannick Nézet-Séguin conducts this orchestra known for the intensity of its concerts and its bold performance style. Program: Tchaikovsky's Symphony no. 5 in E minor and Ravel's

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Suite from *Ma mere l'oye* (Mother Goose) and Piano Concerto in G major with award-winning pianist **Hélène Grimaud**. 7:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$14-\$65 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door: 764-2538.

"Stupid F*ing Bird": U-M Theatre Department.** Feb. 19-22. U-M theatre professor Daniel Cantor directs U-M drama students in Aaron Posner's 2013 remix of Chekhov's *The Seagull*. Posner's version is an irreverent comedy that nonetheless remains true to Chekhov's feeling for the pathos of the way his characters are continually surprised by their own lives. 7:30 p.m. (Thurs.), 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), Lydia Mendelssohn Theater, Michigan League. Tickets \$22 & \$28 (students, \$10) at the Michigan League in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

"The Tempest": U-M Musical Theatre Studio. Feb. 19-22. Malcolm Tulip directs U-M musical theater students in Shakespeare's culminating work, a visionary romance set on a magical island ruled by the enigmatic but benevolent sorcerer Prospero and his beautiful daughter Miranda. Prospero is in fact the exiled duke of Milan, who conjures a storm that shipwrecks his old enemies upon his island. The *Tempest* is filled with verse and song (including the famous "Full fathom five") and contains some of Shakespeare's most gorgeously haunting poetry. (Yes, musical theater students: they're working on their acting skills.) 7:30 p.m. (Thurs.), 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), U-M Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Tickets \$17 (students, \$10) at the Michigan League in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

"Confetti Sunrise": U-M Dance Department Meanings & Makings of Queer Dance Series. See 18 Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

Aiyun Huang: U-M School of Music. This theatrical Montreal percussionist performs Aperghis's *Le Corps a Corps*, Globokar's *Toucher*, Applebaum's *Aphasia*, and a new work by Eric Ullman. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a lecture on the program. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615-3204.

"Music Now Fest '15": EMU Music Department. See 18 Wednesday. Tonight: a recital by EMU music faculty and music student ensembles of a program of guest composer Stucky's works for larger ensembles, including *Music for the Funeral of Queen Mary* (after Purcell) and *Threnos* for wind symphony, "O Vos Omnes" from Three New Motets for mixed choir, *Refrains* for percussion ensemble, and *Jeu de timbres* for orchestra, along with *American Muse* for solo baritone. Preceded at 7:15 p.m. by a lecture by Stucky on tonight's program. 8 p.m.

"Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike": PTD Productions. Feb. 19-22, 24, & 26-28. Liz Graves-Hoxsie directs local actors in Christopher Durang's Tony-winning comedy about 2 gloomy middle-age siblings whose quiet life is interrupted by a visit from their famous sister and her very young boyfriend. Chock-full of Chekhov references, the play functions more as "a loving rejection of pretty much everything Chekhov stands for in the popular imagination," says a *New York Times* review. Cast: Lenore Ferber, Lisa Gavan, Mary Hopper, Ernie Terry, Liam Weeks, and Katie Whitney. 8 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat.), 2 p.m. (Sun. & Tues.), Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$18 (students & seniors, \$12) in advance at showtix4u.com, info@ptdproductions.com, and by phone, and at the door: 483-7345.

Dan Grueter: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Feb. 19-21. Fast-rising young Ohio-bred comic, a frequent guest on late-night TV who's known for his wry, quick-witted, and very funny observational humor. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 212 S. Fourth Ave. \$10 (Thurs.) & \$13 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$12 (Thurs.) & \$15 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

20 FRIDAY

"A Weekend in Paris: Wolverine Classic 2015": Gym America. Feb. 20-22. Nearly 1,000 women gymnasts compete in this national-level competition. Complete schedule available at gymamericagymnastics.com. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. (tentative), Saline Middle School, 7190 N. Maple, Saline. Admission \$11 (seniors & students, \$6; kids age 4 & under, free; 2-day pass, \$17 for adults & \$9 for seniors & students). 971-1667.

"Music Now Fest '15": EMU Music Department. See 18 Wednesday. Today: Pulitzer Prize-winning guest composer Steven Stucky presents a lecture-demo (with live musicians) on one of his works TBA, and EMU faculty composers present open readings of their works for band and orchestra with critique by Stucky. The program concludes with an excerpt from Stucky's new opera. Morning times TBA.

"Open Play for Infants and New Parents": Ann Arbor District Library. All parents and their infants age 6 months & under invited to meet for unstructured play. 10-11 a.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-8301.

Lenten Organ Concert Series: American Guild of Organists. Every Fri., Feb. 20-Mar. 27. Concerts by AGO members and their students. 12:15-1:15 p.m., First Congregational Church, 608 E. William. Free. 604-3205.

"Fix-It Friday": Maker Works. See review, p. 71. All invited to bring anything that needs fixing—chairs, sweaters, radios, and more. Maker Works members and staff will be on hand to help fix things and offer advice. Repairs not guaranteed. 4-6 p.m., Maker Works, 3765 Plaza Dr. (off Airport Blvd. north of Ellsworth). Free. 222-4911.

Keren McGinity: Temple Beth Emeth. This U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies visiting scholar discusses *Still Jewish*, her 2009 book about interfaith relationships and how they're portrayed in the mass media, advice manuals, and religious literature. Dinner. Followed by services. 5:30 p.m., TBE, 2309 Packard. Free. Reservations required via email to tbe@templebethemeth.org. 665-4744.

"Let's Murder Marsha": Chelsea Area Players. Feb. 20-22. Vicky Wurster directs local actors in a dinner theater production of Monk Ferris's comedy about a housewife who loves to read murder mysteries. When she overhears her husband planning her upcoming birthday surprise, she thinks he's planning to murder her. 6:30 p.m. (Feb. 20 & 21) & 1 p.m. (Feb. 22), Chelsea Community Hospital Dining Room, 775 S. Main, Chelsea. Tickets TBA in advance at Chelsea Pharmacy and by phone. info@chelseareaplayers.org. 475-8713.

U-M Women's Gymnastics vs. Oklahoma. The U-M also has a meet this month against North Carolina State (Feb. 28, 4 p.m.). 7 p.m., Crisler Center. \$6 (groups of 10 & more, \$3 each; kids age 5 & under, free). 764-0247.

"Owl Prowl": Leslie Science and Nature Center. Feb. 20 & 21. Leslie Science and Nature Center staff members present this popular annual program, for adults (Feb. 20) & all ages (Feb. 21), that includes hikes through Black Pond Woods and presentations with live owls to learn how ears, eyes, and feathers help owls survive in the night. 7-9 p.m., LSN, 1831 Traver Rd. Pre-registration required. \$9 (family on Feb. 21, \$34). 997-1533.

"Nonviolent Communication: A Language of Life": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room Book Discussion. Crazy Wisdom staff member Rachel Pastiva leads a discussion of Marshall Rosenberg's international best-seller. 7-9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

Kelly Link: Literati Bookstore. This fiction writer from Northampton, Massachusetts—author of the cult-favorite story collection *Stranger Things Happen*—reads from *Get in Trouble*, her new collection of fantastical, darkly humorous stories. "These are not so much small fictions as windows onto entire worlds," says writer Sarah Waters. "This is a brilliant, giddy read." Signing. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. 585-5567.

Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department. Readings by U-M creative writing grad students, including fiction writer Inez Tan and poet Lorraine Coulter. 7 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 615-3710.

"Artini 2015": Ann Arbor Art Center Fundraiser. All age 21 & over invited to visit several downtown restaurants to taste martinis created for the occasion. 7 p.m., begins at the Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. \$50 in advance at annarborartcenter.org/artini2015. 994-8004.

"Prelude to the Afternoon of a Foehn": Compagnie Non Nova (University Musical Society). See 14 Saturday. 7 & 9 p.m.

"Dawn Dance Weekend": Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Feb. 20-22. A weekend of contra, English country, square, and couples dancing to live music, with around 400 people expected to dance or just listen to the many fine musicians. The highlights of this year's festival include visiting callers Susan Kevra and Joseph Pimentel and live music by the contra band Nightwatch and English country dancing musicians Paul Oorts, Dave Wiesler, and Mary Lea. Wear clean shoes for dancing (no dancing in street shoes allowed). Updated schedule at aactmad.org/ddw. 8 p.m.-2 a.m. (Feb. 20), 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.-midnight (Feb. 21), & 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (Feb. 22), Clague Middle School, 2616 Nixon Rd. just east of Bluett. \$22 (Feb. 20 & 22), \$20 (Feb. 21 afternoon), and \$25 (Feb. 21 evening) at the door. Weekend pass \$80 (members, \$75) in advance by Feb. 13; \$85 at the door. (248) 255-2713.

"Old Made New": U-M Symphony Band Chamber Winds. Andrea Brown, John Pasquale, and

Fix-It Friday

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What if there were an enchanted place where you could meet magical people, the Wizard of Wood among them, who would expertly and enthusiastically repair your household goods, small appliances, and clothing for free? Fix-It Friday is that charmed place, where for two hours on the third Friday of each month, the friendly members of Maker Works volunteer to "reverse the disposable mindset of people and have some fun," says Tom Root, one of its owners.

While I knew that there was no guarantee they'd be able to repair my broken lamp and two Chippendale chairs, the price was certainly right. Root tells me chairs and lamps are their most-requested fixes.

His enthusiasm and that of Bob Stack, a member, is heartening as they circle my William Morris-paneled, translucent porcelain lamp like hungry wolves. A few other members congregate around us. "That's very nice lithophone work," says Stack, who, by happy circumstance, is an expert in lithophone fabrication. I immediately feel better about paying \$110 for my lamp and am delighted when a simple wire splice fixes the problem.

My new pals agree that my broken chairs call for the Wizard of Wood. Al McWaters (also sometimes called the Wood Whisperer) has a furniture design degree and twenty-two years' experience in exhibit space and furniture design. He appears and takes my chairs to the woodshop.

Root notes there are usually at least twelve to fifteen attendees and six to twelve members volunteering. Michele Leshan arrives with a CD player, and in appliance voodoo, it begins to work when Je'Tone Alexander, Maker Works' events coordinator, turns it on. Alexander speculates that dust may have been the culprit, removes the casing, dusts the innards, and then replaces it. Leshan leaves with it, hoping for the best.

Janet Osborne brings in a dehydrator that has fallen down on the job and a blow-dryer that revs its engine as if prepping for the Indy 500. The experts jump on their new prey. Osborne is disappointed to learn the motor in her dehydrator can't be fixed but shrugs cheerfully—she bought it for \$5 at the Kiwanis Thrift Sale, and it gave her five years of service. We huddle around her blow-dryer as she turns it on, and it begins to crescendo. "That's it!" she squeals above the racket, and then turns it off. Root patiently dismantles it and removes hair and dust. Osborne is thrilled that's all it takes to restore her dryer to proper volume and safe use.

The Wood Whisperer returns and lets me know that while one of my chairs was glued and ready to go, the other is beyond repair. He makes me feel better as he lets me know that my chairs aren't as valuable as I'd thought. I donate the decimated chair for use in other projects.

If you're in need of appliance alchemy, household goods hocus-pocus, or sewing sorcery, you can't go wrong at Fix-It Friday on February 20. My premonition suggests you get there early.

—Anita LeBlanc



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Matt Watroba: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Folkalleg.com host Watroba performs lyrical songs and poignant ballads, including several originals. Watroba sings in a sweet tenor voice, accompanying himself on guitar and punctuating his performance with sharply humorous observations. Desserts & coffee available. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. \$12 (kids age 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665-8558.

Pierre Bensusan: Concordia University. Acclaimed French North African guitar virtuoso with a flashy, intense fingerpicking style. His music is a sonorous instrumental blend of several idioms—jazz, bluegrass, Celtic, French folk, South American—woven around his wordless vocal stylings. The winner of the Grand Prix du Disque at age 17, he has released a series of LPs that have provoked comparisons to Doc Watson, Michael Hedges, and John Renbourn. 8 p.m., Concordia University Krefl Center Black Box Theater, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Tickets \$15 (seniors & students, \$8). 995-7537.

"The Campbell Brothers Perform John Coltrane's A Love Supreme": University Musical Society. In honor of the 50th anniversary of Coltrane's seminal recording, the celebrated African American Pentecostal gospel group the Campbell Brothers perform the album in their sacred steel gospel style. An NPR critic praises the band for "a sound as hot as brimstone that kicks holy butt." Musicians include pedal steel guitarist Chuck Campbell, lap steel guitarist Darick Campbell, electric guitarist Phil Campbell, drummer Carlton Campbell, bassist Daric Ben-

nett, and fiery vocalist Katie Jackson. 8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$22-\$44 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

★"Lysistrata": U-M Residential College Drama Concentration. Feb. 20 & 21. U-M drama students in Kate Mendeloff's play production seminar direct and perform Ellen McLaughlin's adaptation of Aristophanes' bawdy masterpiece of classical Greek comedy. The women of Athens conspire to withhold their favors from their warrior husbands until the constant warring of rival cities ceases. Both sides suffer from the sexual strike, and the dramatic question becomes which side will give in first, and on what terms. 8 p.m. (Fri.) & 9:30 p.m. (Sat.), Keene Theatre, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 647-4354.

"Guys on Ice": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike": PTD Productions. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Steel Magnolias": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"The Tempest": U-M Musical Theatre Studio. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Stupid F####ing Bird": U-M Theatre Department. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Dan Grueter: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 19 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

21 SATURDAY

"Nature Tales": Leslie Science and Nature Center. All kids ages 1-5 (accompanied by a caregiver) invited for a reading of *Little Owl's Night*, Divya Srinivasan's story about a little owl's discovery of how his friends are enjoying the nighttime. 10-11 a.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. \$4 per child. 997-1533.

★Grange Junior Makers: Pittsfield Grange. Kids, accompanied by a participating adult, invited to work on electronics, robotics, and woodworking projects

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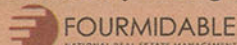
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TBA. 10 a.m.-noon, Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. Free. 926-5079.

★**Death Café.** All invited to join a frank conversation about death led by participants. Hosted by After Death Home Care founder Merilynne Rush. Tea & cake served. 10 a.m.-noon, Crazy Wisdom Tearoom, 114 S. Main. Free. 395-9660.

★**"Planning Your Vegetable Garden": Project Grow.** Project Grow gardeners Joet Reoma and Marcella Trautmann share some gardening tips for layout design, selecting vegetables to grow, deciding where and how to plant them, managing weeds, and choosing materials and products to support and protect your plantings. 10 a.m.-noon, Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. \$5. Preregistration requested. 996-3169.

★**28th Annual Winter Fleece Fair: Spinner's Flock.** A huge array of Michigan-grown fibers for spinning and felting and handspun yarns. Also, supplies for spinning, weaving, knitting, and felting. Members offer demos throughout the day. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Beach Middle School, 445 Mayer, Chelsea. Free admission. spinnersflock.com, 475-7922, 769-1657.

★**"Gamers for Giving 2014": Gamers Outreach.** Feb. 21 & 22. Thirty-six-hour video game event, with several tournaments. A benefit for Gamers Outreach, a charity that creates portable video game carts for kids at children's hospitals. Note: All tournaments sold out except Peggle, Super Smash Bros, and Call of Duty: Advanced Warfare. 10 a.m. Feb. 8-10 p.m. Feb. 9, EMU Student Center Ballroom, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. \$15 (Peggle), \$20 (Super Smash Bros), & \$160 (Call of Duty team pass). Preregistration required at gamersforgiving.org.

★**"Dawn Dance Weekend": Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance.** See 20 Friday. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.-midnight.

★**"Comic Book Crafts: Picture Frames": Ann Arbor District Library.** All adults and youths in grade 3 & up invited to use recycled comic books to make an original picture frame. Materials provided. 1-2 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-8301.

★**"Splash Day": Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation.** Feb. 9 & 23. A family-oriented afternoon of pool games and contests. Prizes. 1:30-4:30 p.m., Mack Indoor Pool, 715 Brooks. \$5 (youth age 17 & under and seniors age 60 & older, \$4). 794-6234.

★**Pan African Youth Orchestra: Ann Arbor District Library Black History Month Concert.** Kweku Kwakye directs this 40-member ensemble of musicians ages 8-18, the youth wing of the National Theatre of Ghana's world-renowned Pan African Orchestra, in a program of music from throughout Africa. 2-3 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

★**"Belle Nuit": Kerrytown Concert House.** Local pianist Kathryn Goodson is joined by bass trombonist Randall Hawes and alto saxophonists Timothy McAllister and Donald Sinta—all nationally renowned musicians—in works from the new double-disc CD she produced. The album takes its title from the lilting barcarolle in Offenbach's opera *Tales of Hoffman* and revolves around themes of nocturnal beauty and passion. 2:30 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15-\$30 (students, \$5) in advance at kerrytownconcerthouse.com & by phone, and (if available) at the door. Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

★**Piano Exchange Concert: U-M School of Music.** Performances by Oberlin Conservatory of Music students. 5:30 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615-3204.

★**14th Annual Dance on Camera Festival: U-M Dance Department.** Feb. 21 & 22. Screening of a selection of videodance works featured in the recent 43rd Annual Dance on Camera Festival at Lincoln Center in New York. Videodance is a hybrid art form that combines the dynamics of dance and the moving body with film/video editing and direction, animation, and computer technology. "The Dance on Camera Festival is one of those NY stealth events, prized by its devotees...where the allusiveness of dance meets the intimacy of film to create a new kind of magic," says former *New York Times* dance critic John Rockwell. 6 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 647-2288.

★**A2 Dhoom: Michigan Mazaa.** Bollywood-fusion dance competition featuring 8 collegiate teams from around the country. Proceeds benefit the Love146, a nonprofit that cares for survivors of child sexual exploitation. 6:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$12 & \$15 in advance at michiganmazaa.com and all Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone: (800) 745-3000.

★**"Let's Murder Marsha": Chelsea Area Players.** See 20 Friday. 6:30 p.m.

★**International Folk Dancing: Ann Arbor Folkdancers.** Dancing to recorded music. No partner needed; beginners welcome. The program begins with a lesson. 7-10 p.m., the barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. \$5 (students, \$3). 709-8748.

★**"Chinese Art and Folk Song": U-M Confucius Institute.** Five vocalists from the Wuhan (China) Conservatory of Music sing a program of folk and art songs from Hubei, Tibet, Yunnan, Xinjiang, and other cultural and ethnic regions of China in celebration of the Chinese New Year. Preceded at 6 p.m. by a reception in the Rackham lobby. 7-9 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 764-8888.

★**"SMTD@UMMA: The Quietest of Whispers": UMMA.** Kevin Fitzgerald conducts U-M music students in works by Evan Ware that explore similar themes as the current exhibit *HE: The Hergott Shepard Collection*, which explores modern Western visions of masculinity and sexuality. 7-9 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★**"28th Annual Storytelling Festival": The Ark.** Feb. 21 & 22 (different programs). Performances for adults (Feb. 21) & families (Feb. 22) by top-notch storytellers from around the country and the state. Headliners are Alton Takiyama-Chung, a veteran Hawaiian storyteller whose repertoire includes both ancient Hawaiian legends and Japanese and Korean folktales, and Reverend Robert Jones, the veteran Detroit blues singer (and ordained Baptist minister) who also possesses a storytelling repertoire that includes stories told by the great folk songster Leadbelly. Opening act is Jennifer Otto, a Lansing storyteller known for her original whimsical tales for both adults and children. 7:30 p.m. (Sat.) & 1 p.m. (Sun.), The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$20 (Feb. 21) & \$10 (Feb. 22 family concert) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office (mutotix.com) & theark.org, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

★**"Quad-A": U-M Kopitonez.** This coed a cappella ensemble hosts a showcase of Asian-interest a cappella groups from around the country, including ensembles from MIT, NYU, Washington University, and others. The program includes both Western and Asian pop. 7:30 p.m., First Congregational Church, 608 E. William. \$5 in advance; \$7 at the door. kopiboard@umich.edu

★**Vinnie Sperrazza: Canterbury House.** This Brooklyn-based drummer-composer performs works from *Apocryphal*, his new album that "follows an appealing agenda of postgenre modernity, blending the discipline and dynamic of jazz with the vibe of experimental rock and ambient music," according to a *New York Times* review. With guitarist Brandon Seabrook, bassist Tim Flood, and saxophonist Andrew Bishop. 8 p.m., 721 E. Huron. \$10 (students, \$5). 665-0606.

★**Timothy Monger: Mangiamo Italian Grill Acoustic Routes Concert.** Engaging local pop-rock singer-songwriter-guitarist from the Great Lakes Myth Society whose pop-rock Americana fuses high lonesome tunes with evocative tales drawn from ordinary life. Monger has a CD, *Summer Cherry Ghosts*, that Allmusic.com calls "a sweetly nostalgic song cycle, filled with sketches of places and people he's loved, memories he treasures—in short, the ghosts of summers past." 8 p.m., Mangiamo, 107 W. Michigan Ave, Saline. \$10 by reservation and at the door. Preferred seating for dinner customers. 429-0060.

★**Trisha Brown Dance Company: University Musical Society.** Feb. 21 & 22. "Defying expectations is a dialogue I have with my audience," says this contemporary choreographer, an iconic dancer who has been key in shaping modern and postmodern dance for the last 45 years. Known for the energy of her ideas and the clarity of their execution, Brown's originality shows in works such as her 1994 *If You Couldn't See Me*, a solo she performs facing away from the audience. The program also includes *Set and Reset*, a 1983 work set to music by Laurie Anderson, and her 1987 work *Newark*. 8 p.m. (Feb. 21) & 2 p.m. (Feb. 22), Power Center. Tickets \$25-\$44 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

★**"Guys on Ice": Encore Musical Theatre Company.** See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

★**"Steel Magnolias": Purple Rose Theatre Company.** See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

★**"Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike": PTD Productions.** See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★**"The Tempest": U-M Musical Theatre Studio.** See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★**"Stupid F***ing Bird": U-M Theatre Department.** See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★**Dan Grueter: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase.** See 19 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

★**"Lysistrata": U-M Residential College Drama Concentration.** See 20 Friday. 9:30 p.m.

guitar

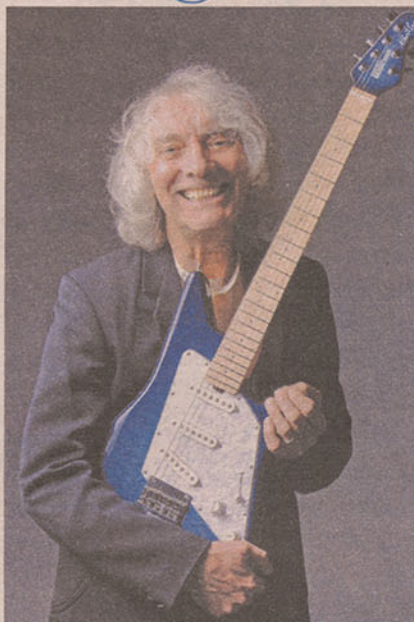
Albert Lee

The greatest guitarist in the world?

You might be surprised to learn that Eric Clapton called his fellow English guitarist Albert Lee the greatest guitarist in the world. Lee is hardly a household name, has recorded just a few solo albums, and isn't identified with any single genre. Apart from his country recordings, he perfected styles rather than originating them. He honed a fearsome Telecaster technique in London in the 1960s, came to Los Angeles in 1974, and toured with one incarnation of the Crickets before joining Emmylou Harris's Hot Band in 1976.

In the Hot Band Lee was the guitar engine behind Harris's classic *Luxury Liner* album of 1977, on which the perfect fusion of innovative lyrics and guitar virtuosity sounds as fresh as it did almost forty years ago. Country guitar that has serious ambitions today—Brad Paisley's music, for example—was built on the foundation laid down by Lee and his predecessor in the Hot Band, James Burton, in the 1970s. Lee also appeared on Harris's semi-bluegrass *Roses in the Snow* album, and his feel for country music comes from the fact that, unlike most of the other English musicians who've experimented with it, he plunged right into the middle of the tradition rather than sticking to its stylized edges.

In concert Lee performs a good deal of 1970s and 1980s country, including his showpiece original "Country Boy," covered in 1984 by singer and guitarist Ricky Skaggs. Skaggs is a very fine guitarist, but his version gets about two-thirds of what is in Lee's. When Lee comes to the Ark on



Monday, February 23 (see Nightspots), expect fireworks if he plays the same version of "Country Boy" that's on his recent album *Live at the Iridium*.

Lee sings and plays guitar and piano in concert, and in addition to country he does a good deal of the rock and roll and rhythm and blues with which he began his career, picking unusual numbers like Carl Perkins' "Restless" or Little Feat's "Rad Gumbo" rather than the standards. Lee doesn't perform terribly often these days as he approaches age seventy, and a bit of acquaintance with his music shows that Clapton's praise was not a favor for a friend but a fully defensible proposition. For lovers of the guitar, Lee's show is a must.

—James M. Manheim

22 SUNDAY

"Dawn Dance Weekend": Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. See 20 Friday. 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

U-M Ice Hockey vs. Ohio State. The U-M schedule this month also includes a weekend series vs. Wisconsin (Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m., & Feb. 28, 4 p.m.), 1 or 5 p.m., *Yost Ice Arena*, 1016 S. State at McKinley. Ticket price TBA at stubhub.com/michigan-wolverines-hockey-tickets. 764-0247.

"Dancing Babies": Ann Arbor District Library. Local composer-percussionist and teacher Aron Kaufman presents a program of music and movement for babies through 5-year-olds. 1-1:40 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

"28th Annual Storytelling Festival": The Ark. See 21 Saturday. Today's program is a family show. 1 p.m.

"Let's Murder Marsha": Chelsea Area Players. See 20 Friday. 1 p.m.

"From Roots to Branches: The Life of Henry Ford": Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County. Talk by Henry Ford Heritage Association board member Steven Stanford, owner of H Is For Henry Publications. Followed by a talk by club member Katherine Wilson on "Using Facebook in Your Genealogy." 1:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off McAuley Dr. from E. Huron River Dr.). Use parking lot P and look for the club's signs. Free. 483-2799.

***Gallery Tour:** U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology. Docent-led tour of the galleries. 2 p.m., Kelsey Museum, meet at the Upjohn Wing entrance on Maynard. Free. 764-9304.

***"Amigurumi Crochet Happy Fun!":** Ann Arbor District Library. Local crafter Beth Battey presents a hands-on introduction to the Japanese art of crocheting small stuffed toys. For adults & youth in grade 6 & up. 2-5 p.m., AADL Mallets Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-8301.

***"Winter Healing Teas":** Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. Local herbalist Bella Sherman discusses how to make teas, infu-

sions, and decoctions from wild herbs and fruits. 2-4 p.m., County Farm Park, Platt Rd. lot. Free, but pre-registration required. 971-6337, ext. 335.

***Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild.** All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. 2-4 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971-5763.

***"Flip Your Field: Objects from the Collection":** UMMA. Docent-led tour of the current exhibit, curated by U-M biological chemistry professor Georgios Skiniotis, of sculptures from the museum's permanent collection juxtaposed with Skiniotis's 2-D projections of magnified cellular components. The exhibit explores how we make a cognitive connection between a 2-D shadow and the 3-D object that casts it. 2-3 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

***Ensemble Concert:** Washtenaw Community Concert Band. Small-group performances of instrumental music by band members and other musicians. Light refreshments available. 2-4 p.m., Zal Gaz Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. Free. 475-8040.

Trisha Brown Dance Company: University Musical Society. See 21 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike": PTD Productions. See 19 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Steel Magnolias": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

"The Tempest": U-M Musical Theatre Studio. See 19 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Stupid F*ing Bird":** U-M Theatre Department. See 19 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Guys on Ice": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 p.m.

***Joan Raeburn Holland & David Holland:** U-M School of Music. U-M harp professor Joan Raeburn Holland is joined by guest violist David Holland in Arnold Bax's *Grand Sonata for Viola and Harp*. Joan also performs solo works for harp. 3 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615-3204.

"Treasure Island": National Theatre Live (University Musical Society). Taped broadcast of the National Theatre (London) production of Bryony Lavender's adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson's classic

novel. Directed by Polly Findlay, this production has been praised for its fantastic set and its young female Jim, played by Patsy Ferran, whom a *Guardian* critic calls "a tiny Charlie Chaplin." Recommended for age 10 & up. 3 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$22 (Michigan Theater members and UMS donors & subscribers, \$18) in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

"A Month for Music": Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra. Adam Riccinto directs this volunteer community orchestra in works by composers born in February, including John Corigliano's *Voyage* for string orchestra, Jerry Goldsmith's *Star Trek Through the Years*, the Overture to Rossini's *The Barber of Seville*, Handel's *Watermusic Suite* no. 2, John Williams' "The Raiders March," and with the Ann Arbor percussion duo Identity Cubed, Jonathan Leshno's Percussion Concerto. Identity Cubed also performs some works on its own. 3:30 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. \$12 (seniors & kids under age 12, \$6; family of up to 2 adults & 2 kids under age 12, \$30) in advance at ypsilantisymphony.org and at the door. 507-1451.

U-M Men's Glee Club: First United Methodist Church. This popular 154-year-old ensemble, long regarded as one of the finest male choruses in the world, presents a 30-minute preview of the program for its performance at the National American Choral Directors Conference in Salt Lake City later this week. Reception follows. 5:30 p.m., FUMC, 120 S. State. Freewill offering. 662-4536, ext. 0.

***Hockettes Exhibition:** Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club. Performances AAFSC synchronized skating teams going to National Championships. 6:15 p.m., Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley. Free. 213-6768.

"Let's Murder Marsha": Chelsea Area Players. See 20 Friday. 1 p.m.

"San Street at Cornman Farms Dinner": Zingerman's Cornman Farms. San Street owner Ji Hye Kim hosts a dinner with a menu from his local food cart and pop-up restaurant specializing in traditional Asian street fare. 7-10 p.m., Cornman Farms, 8540 Island Lake Rd., Dexter. \$85. Reservations required. 619-8100.

***"Woyzeck":** U-M Residential College Drama Concentration. U-M drama students of Kate Mendeloff direct and perform early 19th-century German playwright Georg Büchner's unfinished episodic tragedy about a poverty-stricken barber driven insane by the apparently irremediable injustice of the world. 7:30 p.m., Keene Theatre, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 647-4354.

23 MONDAY

***"Riot at a Railway Station: Space, Race, and the Politics of Infrastructure in France":** U-M Center for European Studies. Talk by Oberlin College French professor Julie Kleinman. 4-6 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-0351.

***"Igor, Lilian, and Frivolity":** U-M School of Music. Harvard University music professor Carolyn Abbate discusses the French-influenced film operettas produced by the German motion-picture production company UFA in Berlin from 1930 to 1933. 5 p.m., Rackham East Conference Room. Free. 615-3204.

"Taste Fest": Michigan Ability Partners. Tastings of food from area restaurants. Entertainment TBA. Raffle & silent auction. 5-8 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Tickets \$30 in advance at mapagency.org/upcoming-events.html. 975-6880.

***"Folk Song Sing-Along":** All invited to join a family-oriented recreational sing-along of folk songs. Bring your guitars, ukuleles, and other instruments if you'd like to jam along as well. Lyrics and chords are projected on a screen for singers and strummers. Led by Lori Fithian and Jean Chorzyczewski. 7 p.m., First Unitarian-Universalist Church, 4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 426-7818.

***"8-Bit Cross-Stitch":** Ann Arbor District Library. All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to make a digital cross-stitch image of a favorite video game character to print out. Instruction and materials provided. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL 4th-floor meeting room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

***Synchronized Skating Exhibition:** Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club. Performances by the AAFSC Hockettes synchronized skating team and the U-M synchronized skating team. 8:30 p.m., Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State at McKinley. Free. 213-6768.

24 TUESDAY

***"Vampire Times":** U-M Comparative Literature Department. University of Wisconsin Slavic languages & literatures professor Tomislav Longinovic explores the rise of Gothic imagery in literature, music, and film and its relation to political trends. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., G127 Angell Hall. Free. 763-2351.

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"Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike": PTD Productions. See 19 Thursday, 2 p.m.

★"Is Democracy in Decline?": U-M Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies. Talk by Stanford University Center for Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law director Larry Diamond. 4-5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-0351.

★"Keyboard Rings": Ann Arbor District Library. All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to make a ring using old keyboard buttons. 7-8 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-8301.

★"Our Auntie Rosa: The Family of Rosa Parks": Ann Arbor District Library. Sheila McCauley discusses this new memoir she co-wrote about her aunt, the iconic Civil Rights activist. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★University Symphony Orchestra, University Choir, Chamber Choir, & Orpheus Singers: U-M School of Music. Kenneth Kiesler conducts these ensembles of music majors in Verdi's powerful and moving Requiem. Preceded at 7:15 p.m. in the lower lobby by a lecture on the program. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 615-3204.

25 WEDNESDAY

★"Getting Your Legal Affairs in Order": U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program. Talk by local attorney Constance Jones. 10-11:30 a.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. Preregistration recommended. 998-9353.

★Brown Bag Recital Series: U-M School of Music. 30-minute concert by local organist Paul Haebig. Bring a bag lunch, if you wish; food available at the Crossroads Café. 12:15 p.m., U-M SPH Community Room, 109 S. Observatory. Free. 615-3204.

★"African Popular Painting Performance": UMMA. Feb. 25 & 26. Congolese painter Sapin Makengele creates a new painting that reflects on the current state of student politics and repression in the Congo. The painting performance is an extension of the documentary film *Les Fantômes de Lovanium* (Ghosts of Lovanium), created by Makengele and Belgian filmmaker Cécile Michel, that captures the reactions and conversations of onlookers as they gather to observe Makengele while he paints in public. Michel is on hand to discuss Makengele's work. 1:30-5 p.m. (Feb. 25) & 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (Feb. 26), UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★"The Schoenstein Competition in the Art of Organ Accompaniment": U-M School of Music. U-M organ and sacred-music majors accompany the First Presbyterian Church choir. 3:30 p.m. (1st half) & 7 p.m. (2nd half), First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 615-3204.

★"Disappearance of Prophetic Voice from the Korean Church and Its Nonservice to Korea": U-M Nam Center for Korean Studies. Lecture by Soongsil University (Korea) Biblical studies professor Hae Kwon Kim. 4 p.m., 1636 SSWB International Institute, 1080 South University. Free. 764-1825.

★"A Dog ... Maybe More than 'Man's Best Friend'": Concordia University Books and Coffee. Concordia library director Michael O'Leary discusses canine characters in a wide range of fiction and reads passages from *The Odyssey* and works by Robert B. Parker, E.B. White, and Martha Grimes. 4 p.m., Concordia University Earhart Manor Living Room, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Free. 995-7389.

★"Can You Train Your Brain?": U-M Natural History Museum Science Café. Talks by U-M psychology professor Priti Shah and U-M psychology grad student Ben Katz, a Lumosity researcher and game designer. Discussion follows. Preceded at 5:30 p.m. by hors d'oeuvres. 6-7:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. Free. 764-0478.

★"Controlled Ecological Burn Public Meeting": Ann Arbor District Library/Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation. A chance to find out about the nature and purpose of the ecological burns the city conducts in city parks on weekdays throughout the spring and fall. The city holds a training session (pre-registration required by Feb. 24 by calling 794-6627 or email to NAP@a2gov.org) at Leslie Science & Nature Center at noon on Feb. 26 for volunteers to help with the burns. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3334 Traver at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327-8301.

★MiRobotClub. All robotics hobbyists invited to work on and discuss robots. Preceded at 6 p.m. by a Kids Robot Club meeting for kids ages 5-13, accompanied by a parent. 7-9 p.m., Maker Works, 3765 Plaza Dr. (off Airport Blvd. north of Ellsworth). Free. mirobotclub.com

★"National Polar Bear Day": Ann Arbor District Library. All kids in grades preK-5 make miniature polar bears using cardboard tubes, string, and glue. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090

E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-8301.

★"An Evening of Poetry and Written Word": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Reading by Glenn Sheldon, a University of Toledo humanities professor whose poetry collections include *The Bird Scarer* and *Angel of Anarchy*. Followed by a poetry and short fiction open mike. 7-9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★"King Lear": Quality 16. Taped broadcast of 2014 Stratford Festival production of Shakespeare's rarely staged tragedy, the harrowing yet sublime story of an aging king who decides to divide his kingdom among his 3 daughters. Stars Colm Feore. 7-10 p.m., Quality 16, 3686 Jackson. Tickets \$17 in advance at goodrichqualitytheaters.com/movies/# and at the door. 623-7469.

★"Steel Magnolias": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday, 2 & 7 p.m.

★History of Science Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. All invited to discuss *Reef Madness*, David Dobbs's book about 19th-century science and philosophy as they intersected in the work of Darwin and paleontologist Louis Agassiz. 7:30-9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669-0451.

Woodmere Cemetery Presentation: Salem Area Historical Society. Detroit teacher Gail Hershenson discusses *Detroit's Woodmere Cemetery*, her 2006 book about the Detroit movers and shakers buried in the bucolic 19th-century cemetery. 7:30 p.m., Salem Township Hall, 9600 Six Mile Rd., Salem. \$2 (members, free). (248) 437-6651.

★Anthony Taylor: U-M School of Music. Performance by this University of North Carolina clarinet professor. 8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 615-3204.

★Neil Rolnick, Jennifer Choi, and Kathleen Supové: U-M School of Music. Electronic musician Rolnick, a pioneer in the use of computers in performance, is joined by violinist Choi and pianist Supové in several of his works as well as Stephen Rush's *Taming the Ox*. 8 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 615-3204.

★"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 4 Wednesday, 8 p.m.

26 THURSDAY

★"Flame On! Nuclear Families, Unstable Molecules, and the Queer History of 'The Fantastic Four'": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender. University of Wisconsin English professor Ramzi Fawaz argues that the *Fantastic Four* comic books unravel the rigid gender and sexual norm of Cold War politics of containment. 4 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764-9537.

★Natalie Diaz: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series. See review, above. Reading by this Mojave poet who played professional basketball in Europe and Asia before writing *When My Brother Was an Aztec*, her 2012 collection that the *New York Times* praised for its ambition and beauty. Raised in the Fort Mojave Indian Village in California, Diaz says her writing explores themes that "represent a kind of hunger that comes with being raised in a place like this." 5:10 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. mslevad@umich.edu

★"Resistance": The Yellow Barn. Screening of this documentary produced by the D.C.-based Food & Water Watch about the problem of antibiotic resistance and the so-called "superbugs" spawned by it. 6:30 p.m., Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron. Free. ouryellowbarn.com

★Hands-On Science Fun: Ann Arbor District Library. Hands-on science and engineering experiments and interactive demos for kids in grades K-5 presented by U-M students from the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers and Proyecto Avance: Latino Mentoring Association. 6:30-7:45 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

★"Issues for Aging: Nutrition after 50": Jewish Community Center. Talk by U-M cardiovascular nutritionist Susan Ryskamp. 7-8:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. Preregistration requested to Leah Zaas at leahz@jfsannarbor.com. 769-0209.

★"The Nature of Beer": Leslie Science & Nature Center. Local science teacher Brandon Goff discusses the history of beer, the process of brewing it, and the ecology of its ingredients. For adults and youth age 15 & older. 7-8:30 p.m., Leslie Science & Nature Center, 1831 Traver Rd. \$8. Preregistration required. 997-1553.

★"What Goes Around Comes Around: The Transpacific Gyre in Ruth Ozeki's *A Tale for the Time Being*": Ann Arbor District Library. U-M history professor Leslie Pincus discusses Ruth Ozeki's novel, the 2015 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads selection (see 11 Wednesday listing). 7-8:30 p.m.,

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poetry

Natalie Diaz

The beauty of a busted fruit

One of the most interesting poetry debuts of the last few years has been that of Natalie Diaz. Part of the interest in her is certainly because of a compelling personal story. Diaz grew up on the Fort Mojave Indian Reservation along the Colorado River. Her father was Spanish and her mother Native. After studying on the east coast and playing basketball professionally in Europe, she returned for graduate school and then a job working to revitalize the Mojave language. Much of this cultural information informs her poems and gives those of us who know little about it a glimpse into a rich history.

That cultural material and her family's story also give the poems a deep sense of urgency. None of these poems feel frivolous. Although there are genuine moments of vision and humor in her first book, *When My Brother Was an Aztec*, there is also a very real anger. The title poem, which turns her brother's drug addiction into a horrifying vision of the family he has damaged, begins: "He lived in our basement and sacrificed my parents / every morning. It was awful. Unforgivable. But they kept coming / back for more. They loved him, was all they could say." Her brother's addiction also becomes the telling image of the losses the Mojave people have suffered, even as it remains the tragic story of one man.

Diaz's background, education, and reading have given her a broad range of reference. The brother becomes an Aztec god, "Huitzilopochtli, a god, half-man, half-hummingbird." But more local myths and stories come in, too, as well as Christian and Greek mythology. Her literary references also move across cultures, from the Bible and the Koran to Spanish proverbs, Rimbaud, Whitman, Lorca, Borges, and a whole group of quieter references. This poet stretches all across the world to find the languages that can tell the story she needs to tell.

Diaz doesn't find any easy answers to her devastating story. She doesn't presume



JOSEPH GIDJUNIS

to say that love will be the answer for pain, even when she writes about the love she has for her family and her people. But at the very end of the book, she offers a measure of hope, one more powerful because of its restraint:

maybe you no longer haul those wounds with you

onto every bus, through the side streets of a new town,

maybe you have never set them rocking in the lamplight

on a nightstand beside a stranger's bed, carrying your hurts

like two cracked pomegranates, because you haven't learned

to see the beauty of a busted fruit, the bright stain it will leave

on your lips, the way it will make people want to kiss you.

Natalie Diaz reads at UMMA on February 26.

—Keith Taylor

"Steel Magnolias": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Bil Dwyer: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 26 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

28 SATURDAY

"Maple Sugaring: A Journey to the Sugar Bush": Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. Every Sat. & Sun., Feb. 28–Mar. 22. Naturalist Mark Irish discusses the history of maple sugaring and leads a hike to a stand of maple trees to see how they are tapped, followed by a trip to an evaporator to learn how sap is turned into syrup. 10 & 11 a.m. and noon, Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. \$5 (kids, \$3). Preregistration required. \$5 vehicle entrance fee. 426-8211.

★"Sap to Syrup": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. WCPRC naturalist Faye Stoner demonstrates how to make maple syrup. Note: The 1 p.m. program is geared towards families with kids age 4 & up. The 3 p.m. program is adults only. 1 & 3 p.m., County Farm Park Field Operations bldg., Platt Rd. entrance. Free; preregistration required. 971-6337, ext. 334.

★"Super Smash Brothers 'Not So' Regulation Throwdown": Ann Arbor District Library. Video game tournament for adults and teens in grade 6 & up. 1–4 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

★"Mending Techniques": Ann Arbor District Library. Gentle Clothing (Northville) owner Karen LePage shows adults and teens in grade 6 & up the basic techniques for mending clothes. 2–3:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327-8301.

Annual Fundraising Banquet: Washtenaw County Pheasants Forever. Buffet dinner, live and silent auctions, and raffles. 5 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Tickets \$85 (includes 1-year membership; early-bird special, \$65) in advance only. Add-on spouse tickets, \$30. Reservations required. washtenawpf.org

"19th Annual Hearts for the Arts": Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra Fundraiser. Champagne reception, formal dinner, and live and silent auctions. Also, live music by AASO musicians. 6–10 p.m., Barton Hills Country Club. \$173 in advance at a2so.com/fundraisers/heartsforsymphony. 994-4801.

★"Louder Than a Bomb Poetry Slam Finals": The Neutral Zone. Poetry slam teams from across the state battle for a spot at the Michigan Youth Poetry Slam State Championships. 7 p.m., Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. Free. 214-9995.

James Falzone's Renga: Kerrytown Concert House. Chicago-based composer-clarinetist Falzone leads his clarinet and saxophone quintet in jazz improvisations. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10–\$25 (students, \$5) in advance at kerrytownconcerthouse.com & by phone, and (if available) at the door. Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

"The Snow Queen": Hoover Street Dance Company. HSDC artistic director Colette Kenville directs this local company of dancers ages 10–18 in the 2nd annual production of her ballet adapted from the Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale about a young girl who courageously sets out to free her friend who has been kidnapped by the beautiful but sinister Snow Queen. The HSDC dancers are joined by a Skyline High School string quartet, the Lorelei Singers from Pioneer and Community high schools, and local Finnish and Russian folk dancers. 2 & 8 p.m., Power Center. \$15–\$25 in advance at mutotix.com and at the door. 302-3502.

"Erminie": Comic Opera Guild. Feb. 28 & Mar. 1. Nada Radakovic conducts veteran local company in a concert-style production, with limited staging, of Edward Jakobowski's 1885 comic opera, a huge hit in its day, eclipsing even the initial run of Gilbert & Sullivan's *The Mikado*. The plot is a romantic comedy involving an ill-conceived arranged marriage that is pleasingly rearranged by a confusing flurry of stolen and mistaken identities. Stars Elizabeth Cedroni, Richard Knapp, David Andrews, and Jeffrey Willets. 8 p.m. (Feb. 28) & 3 p.m. (Mar. 1), WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. \$20 (seniors, \$17; WCC students, faculty, & staff, free) in advance at comicoperaguild.org and at the door. 973-3264.

"Steel Magnolias": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike": PTD Productions. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Bil Dwyer: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 26 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Lift Off": A2 Aviary. Aerial, dance, and circus acts to rap and hip-hop music by A2 Aviary students. In celebration of A2 Aviary's anniversary. The program ends with a high-energy dance party. Light refreshments & open bar. 9 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors open at 8:30 p.m.), A2 Aviary, 4720 S. State. \$10. 726-0353.

27 FRIDAY

"February Flips and Fizzes": Zingerman's Cornman Farms. Zingerman's staff discuss and show how to prepare some cocktails that require enthusiastic mixing techniques, including a colonial rum flip, a 19th-century brandy milk punch, and the classic Ramos gin fizz. Tastings. With appetizers. Recipes available. 7–9:30 p.m., Cornman Farms, 8540 Island Lake Rd., Dexter. \$65. Reservations required. 619-8100.

"14th Annual Rent Party": Jazzistry. Dancing to this local educational jazz history ensemble that's led by saxophonist and clarinetist Vincent York, which tonight showcases the music of Motown. Performers include vocalist Ramona Collins and some of Detroit's top jazz musicians—pianist Al McKenzie, guitarist Ron English, trumpeters Dwight Adams and John Douglas, trombonist Edward Gooch, baritone saxophonist Gary Kwek, drummer Ted Smith, and bassist Daryl Smith. Hors d'oeuvres, cash bar. A fundraiser for Jazzistry's award-winning K–12 educational programs. 7:30–10 p.m., EMU Student Center Grand Ballroom, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. \$40 (students, \$20) in advance, \$50 (students, \$25) at the door. 761-6024.

Randy Napoleon & Peter Bernstein: Kerrytown Concert House. Jazz guitar duo of MSU jazz professor Napoleon and MSU artist-in-residence Bernstein. Ann Arbor-bred Napoleon has toured with Benny Green and Michael Bublé and is a member of the Freddy Cole Quartet. Bernstein is a highly influential guitarist who's been a part of the New York jazz scene since 1989. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15–\$30 (students, \$5) in advance at kerrytownconcerthouse.com & by phone, and (if available) at the door. Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

"Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike": PTD Productions. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

AADL Traverwood Branch, 3334 Traver at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327-8301.

★"Orchestra Night": Ann Arbor Public Schools. This gala concert features more than 1,000 student performers in orchestras from all 5 Ann Arbor middle schools, plus the Huron, Skyline, and Pioneer symphony orchestras. Program: Sibelius's *Finlandia*, the 3rd movement of Rachmaninoff's *Symphonic Dances*, the finale to Shostakovich's 5th Symphony, and other works TBA. 7–9 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 994-2314.

"Steel Magnolias": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 7 p.m.

"Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike": PTD Productions. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Suzanne Westenhoefer: The Ark. Very popular lesbian comedian whose engaging personality and bright, agile, adventurous observational humor and irreverent social commentary have made her a favorite with all audiences. A frequent guest on cable TV shows, she also has hosted her own HBO special. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$26 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office (mutotix.com) & at theark.org, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

Bil Dwyer: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Feb. 26–28. Veteran Midwestern stand-up comic and actor known for his hip, sardonic takes on marriage, kids, and family life. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 212 S. Fourth Ave. \$11 (Thurs.) & \$14 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$13 (Thurs.) & \$16 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

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Classifieds

Lessons & Workshops

The Classifieds deadline for the March issue is February 10.

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The Classifieds deadline for the March issue is February 10.

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Locally Raised Beef and Lamb
Hormone and antibiotic free. Superior
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more info. (734) 428-7210.

Wanted

The Classifieds deadline for the March issue is February 10.

UMS Ambassadors is recruiting new members! If you are passionate about the arts and looking for ways to be an advocate for UMS, we hope you will consider joining us. The purpose of the UMS Ambassadors (formerly Advisory Committee) is to advance the goals of UMS, champion its mission through community engagement, provide and secure financial support, and assist in countless other ways. To learn more, please contact Cindy Straub at (734) 647-8009 or cstraub@umich.edu

Non-Medical Assistant for Senior
To help you keep yourself busy with:
walks, shops, movies, books, etc.
Please email veranic49@gmail.com

GUIDES RESEARCHER

Conscientious, diligent, and resourceful person with excellent English skills needed for temporary work at the Ann Arbor Observer as a City Guide and Community Guide researcher. Must be available for most of the period from May through August. Part-time position (20 hours/week) with flexible schedule. The job requires tremendous attention to detail, ability to track down information, suitable people skills, good writing skills, and a penchant for accuracy and thoroughness. Please send resume and cover letter to James Manheim, Deputy Editor, 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103, email jim@aaobserver.com, or fax (734) 769-3375. No phone calls, please. Application deadline is March 1.

Miscellaneous

The Classifieds deadline for the March issue is February 10.

ISPY CONTEST

Can you identify the glimpse of Ann Arbor in the photo on p. 83? If you can, you could win a \$25 check made out to any business advertising in this issue. One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, February 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, AA 48103. Fax: 769-3375; email: backpage@aaobserver.com (put I Spy in the subject line).

FAKE AD CONTEST

Can you find the fake ad in this issue of the Observer? If you can, you could win a \$25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue! One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon February 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: backpage@aaobserver.com or write to: 2390 Winewood, AA 48103.

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The Classifieds deadline for the March issue is February 10.

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Call (734) 975-0028 or email
info@marketingnewauthors.com

Woodworker/Restorer
www.furnituredesignwoodwork.com
steve@furnituredesignwoodwork.com
(734) 265-0664 - Leave Message

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Ann Arbor Observer Classifieds

2390 Winewood Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Office: (734) 769-3175, Fax: (734) 769-3375

Email: classifieds@aaobserver.com

Please include your name and contact information.

We reserve the right to reject, cancel, or modify any advertising and to determine the classification of individual ads.

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Why is this important?

To maintain our second-class-periodical postal status, which includes a faster, more economical delivery service, we have to show the post office that our readers want to keep receiving the Ann Arbor Observer.

Since 1976, the Observer has been a locally owned community resource. We want to continue to provide the Observer to all permanent Ann Arbor residents and chamber members in Washtenaw County. We are making every effort to keep costs in line and maintain our commitment to quality. **Please take a few minutes to confirm your FREE subscription.** Or become an Observer Friend! See page 83 for more information.

Thanks for reading the Observer.

Sincerely,

Patricia Garcia
Publisher



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Loan Type:

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Market Update - February 2015

Wow, what a year! 2014 will go down as one of the strongest years in the history of Ann Arbor real estate. Fueled by our strong economy, low supply of homes and strong demand, our market soared with many homes appreciating 10% or more. My personal sales set an all time record. The same trends are continuing to dominate our market and 2015 looks to be another great year. Are you thinking of buying or selling in 2015? Call me today to start planning! 734-476-7100.

SELLERS - The value of your home is at its highest level since 2007. Demand for your home is at the highest level since 2004. But this market is far from "easy". The issues of pricing, managing multiple offers, and successfully appraising the home with the buyer's lender are more complex than ever. It takes an experienced agent with an effective strategy to successfully sell your home and get it closed. Please call me to discuss your situation today. 734-476-7100.

BUYERS - Word on the street is that there are no quality homes to buy. Somehow I manage to lead the county in closed buyer sales year to date. I have been successful in finding the best homes available for most of my buyers (not all, sorry). The process of home selection, offer strategy, and financing are a challenge. You need an experienced agent in your corner to find the right house and successfully close. Call me today to start your search. 734-476-7100.

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Over 120 homes sold in 2013

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Matt Dejanovich has been a realtor serving the Ann Arbor area for 25 years and has been a resident of the community his entire life. Matt prides himself on providing personal, direct service to each and every one of his clients.

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BARTON HILLS - Are you looking for the best? Here it is. This custom-built 6-bedroom, 4-bathroom, 2-half bath home rests on an incredible 6.5 acre lot. Gorgeous grounds with mature trees, circle drive, and spacious yard. The interior features gorgeous flowing spaces built with only the finest materials and craftsmanship. Highlights include spacious great room, travertine flooring, gourmet kitchen, dream master suite, and finished walkout basement. \$1,595,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



ANN ARBOR HILLS - Absolutely stunning 4 BR, 3 BA mid-century modern home designed by Metcalf. This home rests on one of the most beautiful settings in Ann Arbor with gorgeous hill top view and 1/4 acres of mature landscaping with wonderful outdoor living areas. No expense was spared to update this to modern standards. Features include gourmet kitchen, dream master suite, wonderful living areas with walls of glass, and the finest mechanical systems to be found. \$1,195,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



WINES ELEMENTARY - Striking 4 BR, 3 BA, 2 1/2 BA formal showcase home on a gorgeous hilltop acre lot. Incredible setting in one of Ann Arbor's most sought after locations. The interior of this home is picture perfect, including renovated kitchen with painted maple cabinets and professional grade appliances, family room, wall of glass to the backyard, walnut paneled den, dream master suite, and finished basement. \$1,095,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE - This custom built 5 BR, 5 1/2 BA home represents only the finest in quality construction and materials. Incredible space and upgrades throughout. Resting on a peaceful acre+ lot in quiet country sub, a wonderful location to call home. The residence is highlighted by a stunning custom kitchen with granite counter tops, great room with hardwood floor, dream master suite with spa-like bath, and one of the nicest finished basements you will see. \$799,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



STONEBRIDGE - Very high quality 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath custom-built home overlooking the 18th Fairway at Stonebridge. Great setting with one of the most spacious feelings available in the neighborhood. The home is gorgeous and features two-story great room with wall of glass overlooking the course, large kitchen, den, luxury first floor master suite, great kids' bedrooms, and finished lower level with large rec room and tons of nature light. \$639,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - STONEBRIDGE - Stunning 4 BR, 2 1/2 Colonial on one of the most private lots in the neighborhood. Located at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac, this 3-acre lot features woods on two sides and large backyard. The home has been perfectly upgraded and includes two-story foyer, open kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, large family room with fireplace, den, nice master suite, and finished lower level with view out windows. \$564,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE - This is one of the most incredible homes I have ever listed. Stunning Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired home built to the highest standard of craftsmanship and materials. Enjoy your own park-like acre plus setting with mature landscaping, large patio, and stream. Home is jaw dropping at every turn including custom kitchen with granite, custom woodwork in every room, two fireplaces, waterfall, and outbuilding. \$534,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - ANN ARBOR - This 4 BR, 2 1/2 BA timber frame home rests on 10 gorgeous, wooded acres of land just minutes from shopping, schools, and I-94. The setting is spectacular with mature trees on the majority of the property. The home features exposed beam construction, nice living room with fireplace, open kitchen, family room/sun room, and large master suite with vaulted ceiling. Upgraded out building has heated workshop and storage. \$499,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - CENTENNIAL FARMS - Inviting 4 BR, 3 1/2 BA home in one of Saline's most desired neighborhoods. Walk to Harvest Elementary from this like-new, custom built home. Enjoy the scenic view from the large brick paver patio. This home has incredible features throughout, including dream kitchen with granite and SS appliances, great room with vaulted ceiling, one of the nicest master suites you will see, and Jack-n-Jill bath. \$499,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - SALINE ESTATES - Perfect 4 BR, 3 1/2 BA on a spacious acre lot in one of Saline's most popular subs. Great setting including large backyard, brick paver patio with fire-pit, and extensive landscaping. The interior of this home is stunning. Highlights include extensive hardwood floor, open kitchen with painted maple cabinets, granite, and SS appliances, two-story family room, den, luxury master suite and Jack-n-Jill bath. \$499,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - THE UPLANDS - Stunning 5 BR, 3 1/2 BA home in one of Ann Arbor's most desired neighborhoods. Quiet setting with great landscaping, large deck, and lots of privacy. The interior of the home is special and features hardwood floors, renovated kitchen with granite counter tops and SS appliances, great room with vaulted ceiling, large master suite and finished basement with rec room, bedroom, and bath. \$499,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



KING SCHOOL - Completely remodeled 4 BR, 2 1/2 BA Colonial in one of Ann Arbor's most desired locations. This setting is special - backing to mature trees with large deck and great landscaping. The home has been completely redone in the past six months featuring a gorgeous maple kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, open family room with fireplace, den, nice master suite with new bath, and finished basement. \$469,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



TORWOOD - Very nice 4 BR, 2 1/2 BA colonial on a quiet cul-de-sac lot in one of Saline's most desired neighborhoods. Great location walking distance to downtown Saline. This home is in perfect condition and features a two-story great room with fireplace and wall of glass to the backyard, open kitchen with cherry cabinets, luxury master suite with vaulted ceiling and great bath, and nice sized kids' bedrooms. \$299,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



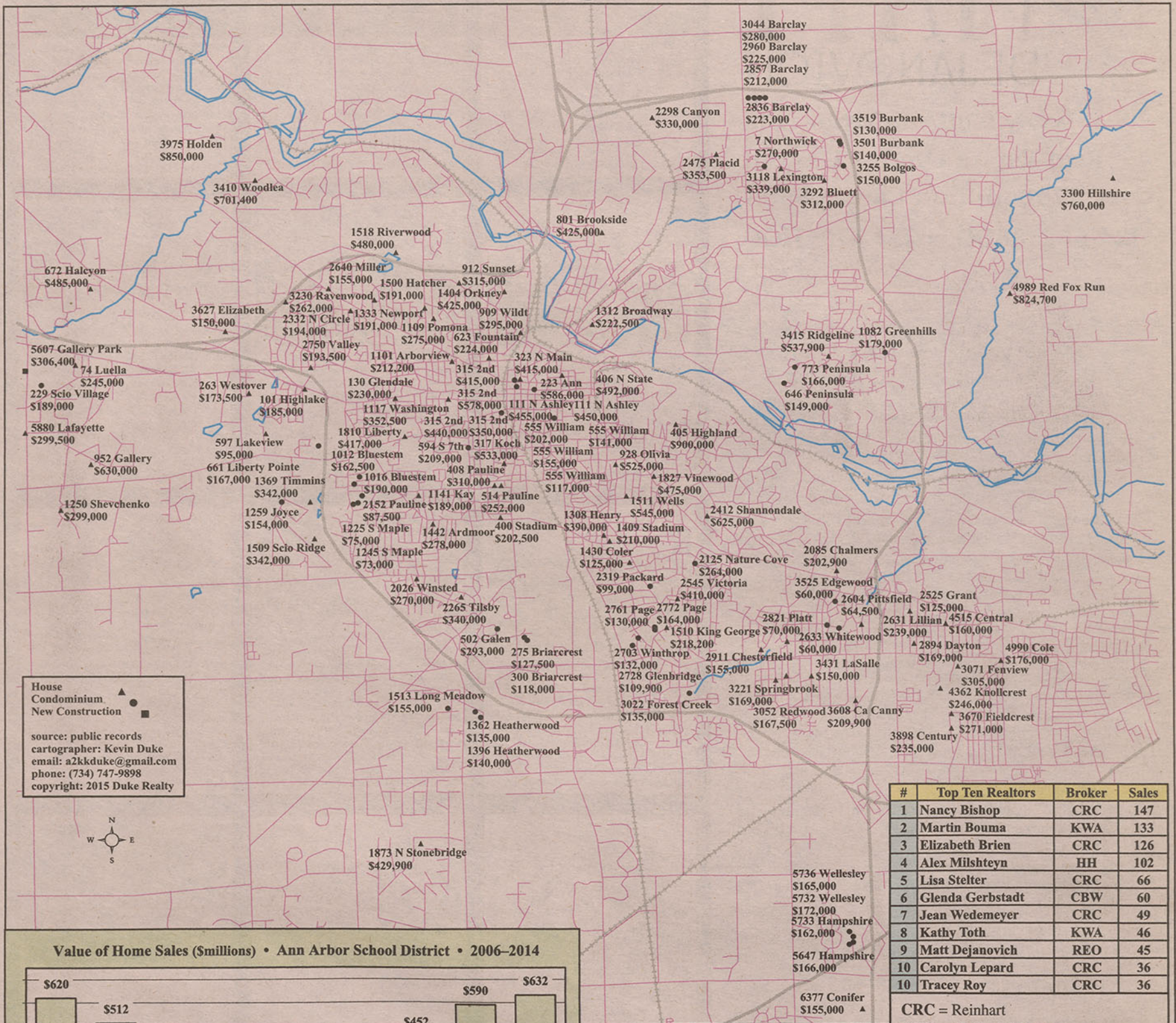
NEW LISTING - LINCOLN SCHOOLS - Nicely updated 4 BR, 2 BA ranch on 5 peaceful acres just minutes from schools, shopping, and freeways. Great setting with abundant wildlife and pole barn. Features include large living room, open kitchen, family room with fireplace, large bedrooms, and finished basement with view out windows, bedroom, and large rec room area. \$239,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



GREENHILLS CONDO - This 3 BR, 2 1/2 BA condo on Ann Arbor's NE side is ready for you. Enjoy the beautiful view of nature and open space from the large deck. The interior of this condo is sharp and includes mostly hardwood floor on the main level, open kitchen with oversized eating area, living room with fireplace, large master suite, and sizeable 2nd and 3rd bedrooms. \$249,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.

DECEMBER 2014

HOME SALES



#	Top Ten Realtors	Broker	Sales
1	Nancy Bishop	CRC	147
2	Martin Bouma	KWA	133
3	Elizabeth Brien	CRC	126
4	Alex Milshteyn	HH	102
5	Lisa Stelter	CRC	66
6	Glenda Gerbstadt	CBW	60
7	Jean Wedemeyer	CRC	49
8	Kathy Toth	KWA	46
9	Matt Dejanovich	REO	45
10	Carolyn Lepard	CRC	36
10	Tracey Roy	CRC	36

CRC = Reinhart
KWA = Keller Williams
HH = Howard Hanna
CBW = Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel
REO = Real Estate One

The value of homes sold in the Ann Arbor School District set a new record in 2014. Sales of new and existing single-family homes and condos totaled \$632 million, up 13 percent from 2013. The number of single-family sales actually fell by two, to 1,370, but their median selling price rose nearly 13 percent, to \$295,000.

Condos contributed 659 sales to the haul, thirty more than the year before. Their prices were up, too: the median condo sold for \$165,000, 6 percent higher than in 2013.

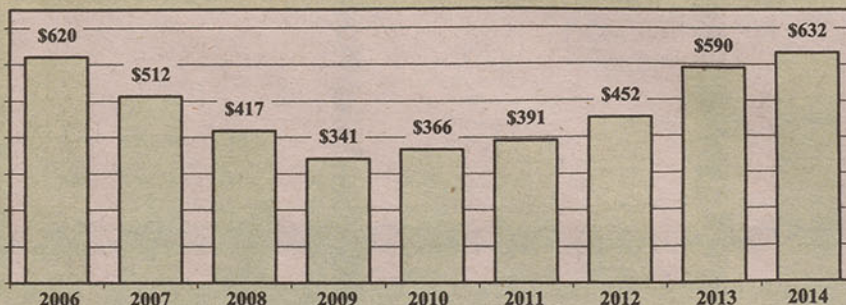
Only the market for new homes is still in a funk. Builders added just eighty-two single-family homes and condos to the year's total, nine fewer than the year before.

Residential real estate brokers handled 83 percent of all the homes sold in the school district, based on our analysis of the Ann Arbor Board of Realtors' data. If we estimate that their commission averaged 6 percent, their annual pay on \$524 million in sales would have amounted to roughly \$31 million, before expenses.

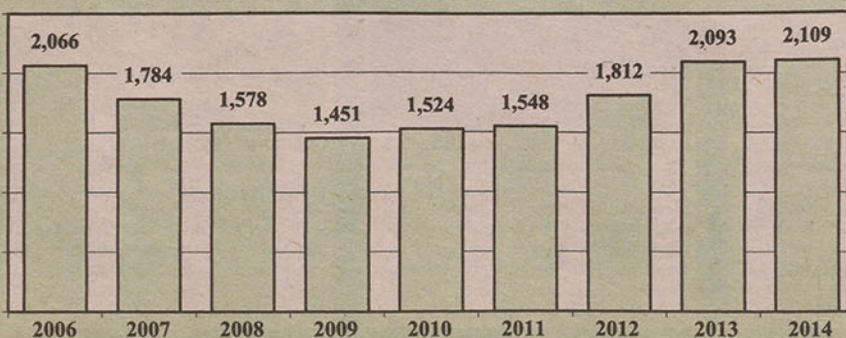
Who sold the most? The table above lists the eleven Realtors who topped the charts last year, based on total sales in the Ann Arbor school district as either the listing agent or the selling agent.

—Kevin Duke

Value of Home Sales (\$millions) • Ann Arbor School District • 2006–2014



Number of Home Sales • Ann Arbor School District • 2006–2014





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CLOSED SALES 2014

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2938 Newport	3224 Alpine	315 Second #201
7645 Blue Gentian	283 S Zeeb	1081 Addington
2635 Gladstone	1938 Brock Ct	426 S Main Street
2730 Hampshire	8821 Somerset	6167 Gabrielle
1181 Kay Parkway	632 N Mansfield	165 Rockwood Ct
1105 Arborview	5004 Birkdale	6167 Gabrielle
3047 Barclay Way	1380 Honey Run	1372 Timmins Drive
2870 Lakehurst	5922 Cedar Ridge	927 Lennox
2870 Lakehurst	402 Second	5941 Cottonwood
7404 Muirfield	2905 Fernwood	348 Highland
1592 Coventry Square	7649 Paint Creek	2200 Steeplechase
2663 Timber Hill	2583 N Wagner	665 Liberty Pointe
3101 Dobson	1465-1467 Bemidji	3012 Orinoco
4403 Inverness	720 Linda Vista	743 Watersedge
101 Fieldcrest #304	3599 Barry Knoll	2313 Packard #301
7658 Carlton	2380 St Francis	1116 Fountain
3900 Highlander Way E	511 Larkspur	1645 Arbordale
1023 Granger Ave	9231 Posey	8472 Webster Hills
2153 Stonebridge Dr. S	7697 Paint Creek	20610 Logan
2214 Devonshire	2132 Pauline #206	2659 Chateau Ct
101 Fieldcrest #304	1607 Winsted	8111 Cypress
1809 Harley	5994 Cedar Ridge	609 Dartmoor
1772 Sanford	2001 Vinewood	2723 Page
2942 Aurora	538 Woodland	630 Third
281 Lawson	1711 Hermitage	3583 Bent Trail
5950 Warren Rd	5974 Cedar Ridge	1930 Lindsay Lane
2984 Barclay Way	921 Raymond	4637 Sawgrass
1232 Joyce Lane	1225 Island Drive #102	1583 Long Meadow
3153 Asher	168 Ashley Mews	315 Second #201
1647 Fulmer	2980 Hunley	3037 Turnberry
2445 Woodview	3005 Fernwood #103	2310 Yost
1318 Kingwood	259 Sandrock Ct	7880 Newbury
5466 Pinnacle	2053 Rouse Creek	2183 Vail Ct
1926 Lindsay Lane	2925 Aurora	44427 White Pine Circle
1137 Freesia	1706 Fulmer	13708 Willow
1325 S Maple #104	7857 Creek Bend	3644 W Huron River Dr.
7262 Lochmoor	1056 Martin Place	2303 Vinewood
3017 Walnut Ridge	1304 Wells	5880 Lafayette
10262 Buhl	2722 Roseland	3274 Alpine
556 Mills	7225 Roxbury	2235 Tilsby Ct
945 Rose Dr	4872 Greenook	726 Soule
309 Wesley	3670 Northbrooke	2901 Leslie Park Circle
101 Hobbiton Lane	3226 Glacier Ct	801 Brookside
2631 Fenwick	1315 Millbrook	514 Galen Circle
138 Ashley Mews	133 Ashley Mews	4368 Pine Ridge Ct
3017 Walnut Ridge	224 Snyder	1022 Haist
1935 Timber Trail	3180 Primrose	3230 Ravenwood
1420 Chapleau	111 N Ashley #801	223 E Ann #1
627 Ridgewood	826 W Washington	315 Second St #507
125 Fieldcrest #304	4782 Gingko Drive	2728 Glenbridge
3171 Lakehaven	7105 Summit Ridge	111 N Ashley #512
1606 Charlton	4933 Westwind Dr	175 Briarcrest #112
2361 Sun Valley	6718 Robison	1396 Heatherwood
1237 Corral	581 Archwood	3292 Bluett
2508 Big Sky Ct	9006 Carter Drive	1117 W Washington
604 Trego Circle	1880 Independence	3052 Redwood Ave
4 Fair Oaks	2103 Copley	5404 Dixboro Farms
849 E Summerfield Glen	2718 Knightsbridge	8089 Trail Ridge
1531 Packard #10	273 Scio Village	2026 Winsted
1221 Island Drive #104	1315 Millbrook	3802 E Garden Ct
6867 Wellington Drive	110 W Oakbrook	111 N Ashley #609
1123 S Forest	4228 Brookstone	2126 Pauline #104
772 N Wagner	675 Liberty Pointe	6981 Plainview
1850 Meadow Ridge	5569 Big Pine	2869 Barclay
754 Flanders	2889 Walnut Ridge	
401 Montgomery	3745 Barry Knoll	
205 Mills	2555 Elmwood	
1531 Packard #10	1021 Spring	
4046 Cornerstone	1733 Monterey Ct	
5692 Versailles	8338 Jack Pine Drive	
414 S Main Street	2726 Glenbridge Ct	

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Back Page

i spy

by Sally Bjork

January's I Spy showed the "two benches on the UM campus between the Hatcher Library and Angell Hall," writes Megan Hartline. "I recognized them right away, since my office in the library offers a nice view" of them. Our clue, "Acacia," referred to the fraternity that donated the bench in the foreground, in 1929; the other was given by Xi Si Psi ten years later. "It's very neat to sit on one of these old gifts to the school," comments David Bicknell.

Kathy Peterson was inspired to check out the Acacia bench in person. "It is truly lovely and breathtaking public art ...," she reports. "[I]t gave me chills to think of all of the events that the bench has 'seen.'"

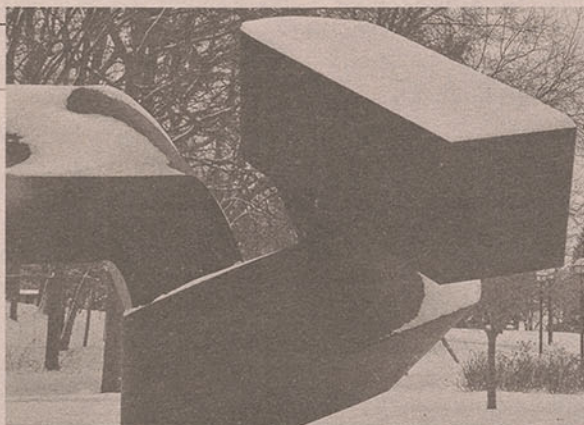
Judi Taylor and Keith McConnelly relay information from the uni-

Created posthumously from a 1992 model

versity's website stating that the "Acacia Fraternity was founded at Michigan on May 12, 1904, by fourteen Master Masons ... the bench was presented in 1929 at the 25th anniversary of the founding." Acacia no longer owns a house in Ann Arbor, but Tim Reade lived in its former house on Geddes—"the present day Rudolf Steiner House, home of the Anthroposophical Society in America."

Twenty-two entries correctly identified the Acacia bench. Our random drawing winner is Marilyn Knepp. She will enjoy her \$25 gift certificate at Zingerman's Roadhouse.

To enter this month's contest, use the clue and photo above to identify the feature and send your answer to the address at the bottom of the page.



fake ad

by Jay Forstner

Not only did Eve Avrin provide all the pertinent contest information in her entry this month, she also educated us.

"The Fake Ad for January 2015 is found on page 75," Avrin wrote. "Tai Chi Chai Tea. Last month's winner's name, Mark Brantmeyer, is embedded in the words 'bran, tea, meyer.'"

"By the way," Avrin continues, "chai tea has neither oat bran nor lemongrass (nor herbs for that matter) in its ingredients. That would make it something else (gross). Being a chai aficionado myself, I spotted the incongruencies immediately. (Chai typically has ginger root, cinnamon, cloves,

black pepper, milk and of course black Indian tea. Best drunk fresh, and sickeningly sweetened with brown sugar)." That's great information, and a good reminder why you shouldn't use Fake Ads to plan your diet.



Our winner, drawn from 181 correct entries, was Ellen Willson of Ann Arbor. She's taking her gift certificate to Downtown Home & Garden.

To enter this month's contest, find the fake ad, identify it by name and page number, and follow the instructions in the box below. The fake ad always contains the name of last month's winner in some form.

To enter either contest, send email with the subject "Fake Ad" or "I Spy" to backpage@aaobserver.com. Mail: 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. All correct entries received by noon on Tuesday, February 10, will be eligible for this month's random drawings. Winners will receive \$25 gift certificates to any business advertising in this issue.

THANKS!

We extend a sincere thank you to our new Observer friends!

We appreciate your financial support.

Thanks also to readers who responded to our request for **FREE** subscription confirmations.

Congratulations to the lucky winners of our January drawing!

The following readers won a **\$25 gift certificate** to their choice of any business advertising in the Observer.

January winners:
Alice M. and Peter C.

If you would like to be entered in the February drawing for a \$25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue, check out the information on page 76, and submit your Observer Friend or Free Subscription confirmation by February 13.

Thanks!
Observer Staff

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2/9: **THE POSTMAN ALWAYS
RINGS TWICE** (1946)

2/16: **THE BIG SLEEP** (1946)
2/23: **THE KILLERS** (1946)

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Events at a Glance

Daily Events listings begin on p. 47. Films: p. 55. Galleries: p. 69. Nightspots begin on p. 44.

Concert Music

classical, religious, cabaret

- "Wine, Women, & Song," Feb. 1, 6, & 7
- Violinist Jennifer Koh, Feb. 6
- Pianist Andrew Anderson, Feb. 7
- "Well-Behaved Women Seldom Make History" vocal program, Feb. 7
- "Music of Strings and Wind from Korea: East Meets East," Feb. 8
- Pianist Bright Sheng & the Evita Quartet, Feb. 8
- Washtenaw Community Concert Band, Feb. 12
- "Lasting Echoes: Musical Exchanges Between China and India," Feb. 13
- "Perchance to Dreame: Songs and Dances from 17th-Century England," Feb. 13
- "A Concert in Honor of St. Valentine," Feb. 14
- "Mendelssohn's *Elijah*," Feb. 14
- Organist Vincent Dubois, Feb. 15
- Violinist Henrik Karapetyan & harpsichordist Francis Yun, Feb. 15
- Javanese Gamelan concert, Feb. 15
- "Music Now Fest" (EMU), Feb. 18-20
- Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra, Feb. 19
- "Belle Nuit" (classical), Feb. 21
- "Chinese Art and Folk Song," Feb. 21
- Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra, Feb. 22
- "Orchestra Night" (Ann Arbor Public Schools), Feb. 26

- *Singin' in the Rain* (Burns Park Players), Feb. 6 & 7
- "Phantom Masks & Opera" (Bellini Opera Theatre), Feb. 12
- *Prelude to the Afternoon of a Foe* (Compagnie Non Nova), Feb. 14, 15, 19, & 20
- *Iolanta/Duke Bluebeard's Castle* (Metropolitan Opera broadcast), Feb. 14
- Trumpeter Wynton Marsalis & the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, Feb. 15
- "Facets of Love" (Arbor Opera), Feb. 15
- "Confetti Sunrise" (U-M Dance), Feb. 18
- *Stupid F***ing Bird* (U-M Theatre), Feb. 19-22
- *The Tempest* (U-M Musical Theatre), Feb. 19
- *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* (PTD), Feb. 19-22, 24, & 26-28
- *Lysistrata* (U-M Residential College), Feb. 20 & 21
- *Let's Murder Marsha* (Chelsea Area Players), Feb. 20-22
- A2 Dhoom (Bollywood dance), Feb. 21
- Trisha Brown Dance Co., Feb. 21 & 22
- *Woyzeck* (U-M Residential College), Feb. 22
- *The Snow Queen* (Hoover Street Dance), Feb. 28
- *Erminie* (Comic Opera Guild), Feb. 28

Comedy, Storytelling, & Performance Art

- Comic Derek Richards, Feb. 5-7
- Comic Lynn Koplitz, Feb. 12-14
- "Laugh at Love: An Anti-Valentine's Day Show," Feb. 13
- Comic Dan Grueter, Feb. 19-21
- Comic Suzanne Westenhoefer, Feb. 26
- Comic Bil Dwyer, Feb. 26-28

Vernacular Music

pop, rock, jazz, & traditional

See *Nightspots*, p. 44, for shows at the Ark, Blind Pig, & other clubs

- Lac La Belle & The Understorey (singer-songwriters), Feb. 4
- Tomasz Stańko (jazz trumpeter), Feb. 5
- SONiA & disappear fear (folk-rock), Feb. 6
- Atomic (jazz), Feb. 12
- Singer-songwriter Nathan Bell, Feb. 13
- Árbol (Latin jazz), Feb. 14
- "Mr. B's Annual Birthday Bounce" (boogie-woogie), Feb. 14
- Singer-songwriter Matt Watroba, Feb. 20
- Singer-guitarist Pierre Bensusan, Feb. 20
- "The Campbell Brothers Perform John Coltrane's *A Love Supreme*" (gospel), Feb. 20
- Jazz drummer Vinnie Sperrazza, Feb. 21
- Singer-songwriter-guitarist Timothy Monger, Feb. 21
- Jazzistry, Feb. 27
- Jazz guitarists Randy Napoleon & Peter Bernstein, Feb. 27
- Jazz clarinetist James Falzone, Feb. 28

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Huron High), Feb. 1, 6, & 7
- *Steel Magnolias* (Purple Rose), every Wed.-Sun. through Mar. 14
- *Guys on Ice* (Encore), every Thurs.-Sun., Jan. 29-Feb. 22
- *Yellowman* (Performance Network), every Thurs.-Sun. through Feb. 15
- *Tick, Tick ... Boom!* (Civic Theatre), Feb. 1 & 6-8
- "Currents & Crossings" (U-M Dance), Feb. 5-8
- *The Birthday Party* (EMU Theater), Feb. 6-8 & 12-15

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Annual Train Show, Feb. 14 & 15
- Chelsea Winter Carnival, Feb. 6-8
- "Dawn Dance Weekend" (traditional music & dance fest), Feb. 20-22
- Winter Fleece Fair, Feb. 21
- Dance on Camera Fest, Feb. 21 & 22
- Annual Storytelling Fest, Feb. 21 & 22

Lectures, Readings, & Forums

- Fiction writer Sergio Troncoso, Feb. 5
- Poet Miguel Algarín, Feb. 9
- Novelist Ruth Ozeki, Feb. 11
- Poet Jean Valentine, Feb. 12
- Poet Scott Beal, Feb. 12
- Poets Katie Hartsock & Laura Kasischke, Feb. 13
- Novelist Josh Malerman, Feb. 16
- Fiction writer Charles Baxter, Feb. 19
- Fiction writer Kelly Link, Feb. 20
- Poet Natalie Diaz, Feb. 26

Family & Kids' Stuff

- *Under the African Sky* (Wild Swan Theater), Feb. 12-14
- *Treasure Island* (National Theatre broadcast), Feb. 22

"Only in Ann Arbor" Event of the Month

- "Owl Do I Love Thee," Feb. 14

Curious About Dance?



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FEBRUARY

- 2 Words for Dance
- 9 Adapting Stories
- 16 Body Experiments
- 23 Dancing Scholarship

MARCH

- 9 Dancing Social Justice
- 16 Graduation and Reflection



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